

THE TENDERLOIN TIMES

Volume 11, Number 10

Voice of the Central City since 1977

November 1987



Photo: Lance Woodruff

Living in a tiny studio apartment, AIDS patient Electra looks to her future and tries to maintain a positive attitude.

AIDS Spells Stigma and Isolation For Growing Numbers of Women

by Karen Koenig with Mary Dowd

I was thinking I had the flu, never dreaming that something was wrong with my lungs, and I had a high fever. Every time I would think about going to San Francisco General, I thought, nah, it'll go away," said Electra (not her real name).

A week later, she woke up in the hospital. A friend who was visiting said something about the AIDS Ward. Electra said, "The AIDS Ward? Why do they have me on the AIDS Ward?"

Her friend sat down in front of her and said, "Because you have AIDS."

Electra said, "Hey, you're crazy. I don't have AIDS. Wouldn't somebody have told me?"

Her friend said, "Told you? We talked about it for a long time."

Electra didn't remember anything like that. "When? What are you talking about? You're mistaken."

"I went out to the hall to the nurse's desk, and I asked them, and they said, 'Yes.' And then I had to believe it."

The disbelief and denial in Electra's reaction to her illness are not unusual among women who have the disease.

And from the lack of services for women with the AIDS virus, it seems San Francisco has not quite accepted the fact that women get AIDS.

Although AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) has been commonly thought to be a disease affecting white gay and bisexual men, a second wave of the epidemic is becoming increasingly evident among women, intravenous drug users, and minorities.

In 1981, women made up only three percent of AIDS patients nationwide. By last year, that percentage had more than doubled to seven percent.

Since 1981, 26 women in San Francisco have been diagnosed with AIDS. Of those women, 10 got the disease from using I.V. (intravenous) drugs, 8 from blood transfusions, and 8 from heterosexual contact. Health officials estimate that the number of women with ARC (AIDS Related Complex) or with the AIDS virus without any symptoms pushes the number of AIDS-affected women much higher.

"The service community in San Francisco has only just recently started to gear up to handle AIDS-affected

Many Could Lose Hotel Rooms

Homeless Poor May Be Charged for Shelter Under City Plan

by Sara Colm

Five years ago the city responded to the homeless crisis by setting up a system of dorm-style shelters as an emergency measure. But recently the city decided to make group shelters its "permanent plan for the homeless," eliminating individual hotel rooms for many of San Francisco's most down and out citizens.

Under the plan adopted by the mayor and Department of Social Services in August, the city would discontinue the "hotline" system, where some 800 people a night are housed for three- to five-day stays in individual residential hotel rooms. Instead, it would send them to group shelters, charging those on public entitlements to stay there.

A limited number of hotel rooms would be used for special populations such as vets, families, the mentally ill and AIDS patients.

To prevent homeless people from "double-dipping," the city plans to set up a system of photo identification and computer tracking of shelter residents. Those receiving public assistance would have to pay a fee.

The Mayor's Homeless Coordinator, Stephen La Plante, who drew up the

bulk of the proposal, called it a "giant improvement" over the current system. He said that group shelters are safer and cleaner than the hotels, which have long been criticized for management and habitability problems.

"Shelters are better for folks than unsupervised transient hotel rooms," said La Plante, who expects the transition from hotels to dorm-style shelters to take 12 to 18 months.

But homeless advocates, shelter providers, and some city officials have criticized the new plan and say com-

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Vietnamese Voters Flex Political Muscle

by Leamon J. Abrams

Relative newcomers to San Francisco's complex political scene, Vietnamese refugees are not only registering to vote, but are forming political clubs to advocate on issues, raise money and throw their support behind candidates supportive of refugee needs.

Their quickly acquired awareness of American politics is astonishing. Arriving in the United States in the mid- to late 70s, many have only recently obtained U.S. citizenship and the right to vote. Their numbers—some 18,000 in San Francisco—are relatively small compared to other ethnic minorities in the city such as Blacks, Filipinos and Chinese. And they carry the memory of political life in their home country, which for much of its history, has been politically controlled by foreigners—first the Chinese, then the

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EXTRA!
Tenderloin Times
Turns Ten

Special Retrospective
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ask the people

by Laurie Lazer

If you could be invisible for 24 hours, what would you do?

Sumiko Saulsen, 19

"First thing, I would go to an airport and fly to Hawaii because I grew up there. I'd like to go to my old school and harass my teachers, throw shots at them. Then I'd sneak into my old boyfriend's house and molest him."



Buddy Go, 47

"I'd fly around the world, and see the beauty, what kind of life other people have and the foods they eat. I'd taste all the different foods."



Jamal Phillips, 28

"I would go to Washington, D.C., go to the White House, go to Mr. Reagan's bedroom, lock the door and basically talk to him and let him know what's going on in the streets, since he lives in a fantasy land. I think he would listen to someone he couldn't see, because he doesn't listen to anyone he sees."



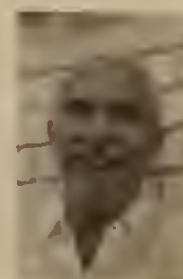
Linda R., 32

"First I would go to a bank and get all the money. I'd fix my credit rating so I would have a zero balance. I'd get on a plane to Paris and shop!"



Thom Lyons

"I'd stay home. I stay home many days for 24 hours. I don't want to be around people. Everybody knows me anyway, how can I hide?"



Luna Sanguine, 33

"Go to the Stock Exchange and walk around; go get beauty hints of the rich and famous in the bathrooms. I'd drop things on people's heads and they wouldn't know where it was coming from."



Ulrike Willman, 22

"I would go and visit my boyfriend in Germany and see what he is doing while I'm not there to watch him."



Consuelo Sigua, 64

"I want to do the things I cannot do when I'm visible. But I can't tell you which things those are. I don't want to say."



house log

by Robert V. Tobin
Hospitality House Director

I wonder if those who make public policy and shape mainstream editorial opinion would have a different perspective on the homeless if they were greeted at work in the morning by the Coroner's Office wagon.

"Better check in upstairs," said a familiar face in the unusually large crowd waiting to get into our daytime drop-in center one morning. Inside, the first thing I noticed was the hand sticking straight up in the air. It could have been reaching for a foul tip at a ball game, or for a diploma, or for spare change. He could have been the only one in a classroom with the answer to a question; instead, he was the only one staying in our night shelter who didn't wake up that morning.

The neighborhood lost more than a business when Ed McGovern's Knight's Cafeteria lost its lease last month. "Let us know how we can help," McGovern said to me on closing day. "We'll still be around." The handshake was firm, but the glint in his eyes gave him away. The City That Knows How couldn't find a way to keep one of those who helped make her that way.

Scenes like these happen every week

in the Tenderloin, plus more hopeful ones, like the teenage refugee from the hills of Laos who's such a computer whiz that he's got a paid job after school as a computer instructor, or the "cultural exchange" parties between blacks and Cambodians happening on Ellis Street, the rebirth of neighborhood art at Eddy Street's EXITheatre and the 509 Cultural Center, or the scout troops being formed over at Glide Church.

None of this should be news to anybody. It is, unfortunately, news to almost everyone who doesn't read the Tenderloin Times. For ten years, the Times has been able to transcribe, transmit, and lately translate the meaning of life in the Tenderloin for those who defy it... and those who deny it. Their peers in the journalism business who picked the stories up and didn't let them die are a credit to their profession. That these stories might not otherwise be known is one reason the Times received a nomination for the Pulitzer Prize; that they continue to be told is part of Hospitality House's commitment to its third decade of service to the heart of San Francisco.

It is with admiration to the Times staff who made it happen, and with gratitude to the supporters, subscribers, and advertisers who helped make it possible, that we join in congratulating the Times for ten years of attention to our city's best interests and our neighborhood's greatest concerns.

letters

Times Voice Heard in NYC

Editors,
Just a few minutes ago I heard a broadcast here in New York City about the Tenderloin Times by Joann Mar on National Public Radio. I'd heard about you before when I read an article in The New York Times about your newspaper and the great work you people do. Please do write and let me know how you make out with your new front page format of the Tenderloin Times. I am most interested in what you folks are doing.

Bob Bennett
Astoria, New York

Times Should Sponsor Peace Conference

Editors,
Enclosed is \$5 to help a little in the work of the Tenderloin Times. Yours is a fine paper. I see too you have a page of poetry and prose. Enclosed also is my poem, "Light," which of course you can print if you have space available.

Your article, "G.A. Workfare, Sweeping the Streets for Survival," (Oct. 1987) is an important contribution. There must be a better way to give human beings a more promising future.

It seems to me that there must be a greater emphasis on ending our huge arms budget of \$250 billion that the government is using to kill thousands of our own people and untold numbers of humans all over the world.

San Francisco, as we all know, is where the United Nations charter was signed. Millions must march and cry out to end all wars, before wars end all of us.

The phone book has columns of foreign consulates. Can't the Tenderloin Times and other progressive organizations invite foreign consuls to gather together with us and end apartheid, violence and wars?

Billions used for construction instead of destruction can mean a better life for all beings on our precious earth.

Your whole section in Vietnamese is certainly important and valuable.

This letter is just some of my feelings that poured out that I wanted to share with you.

Tom Roberts

Readers are encouraged to send letters to Editor, Tenderloin Times, 25 Taylor, S.F., CA. 94102 by the 20th of each month. Letters should be signed and may be edited by the Times.

Shocked by Sequoia Landlord

Editors,
Having been a neighbor of the Pacific Bay Inn (formerly the Sequoia Hotel) for years, many of us are looking with disbelief at what the owner is trying to do in evicting the tenants. We knew that this happened in Nazi Germany. We did not believe that this could happen in America.

Thomas Jefferson, the writer of the Constitution, and the signers were great people, and they were men of wisdom. I do not believe that they ever had in mind that private ownership of a residential building would be interpreted by the owner as permission to evict residents from their homes. I do not believe that they would put runaway profits above the basic rights of the people, especially in such a way where it would be in utter disregard of the well-being of the people involved. The leaders of our country did not make such a fatal error. It is only a minority of our people (the conservatives) that put power and profit above individual rights, and think other than the American way.

To have a decent home, to enjoy it, to use it rightfully, and to feel safe from forced eviction are rights and the law of this land. Stopping someone from living in their own home is, I believe, Un-American, unethical, and smacks of fascism. We wonder if the cruel and cold-hearted actions of the owner and that of some other hotel owners have not become the wellspring of socialism.

Norman Conglomerate

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G.A. Recipients Deserve More

Editors,
I would like to stick up for the G.A. recipients. I think it's a shame and also not fair that they only receive \$311 a month and have to work hard for it. Also it is a great hardship for them to survive on that meager pittance. I am for them receiving at least \$500 a month. How are these people going to better themselves if they do not even have bus fare to go look for a job, not to mention food which they are invariably short on due to their low rate of pay. Also rents are so high in the city, that they are lucky to have a roof over their heads. I feel sad for them. They deserve a better fate. Something should be done immediately to raise their G.A. checks. These are my thoughts on the subject.

Richard McGhee
Antonia Manor

Omission

Last month's article, "Tough New Law Eases Family Housing Woes," (October, 1987) failed to mention the author of the legislation, Supervisor Jim Gonzales, and his co-sponsors on the Board of Supervisors: Britt, Hsieh, Kennedy, Maher, Molinari, Nelder, Silver and Ward. Supervisor Gonzales' leadership in carrying this landmark legislation will have a far-reaching impact on Tenderloin families by prohibiting landlords from evicting or refusing to rent to families with children. The Times regrets this omission.

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Yes on P: Give Power Back to the Neighborhoods

Will the voices of people in the Tenderloin and other neighborhoods around the city be heard at City Hall? Or will downtown developers and other well-heeled special interest groups continue to dominate the Board of Supervisors? That is the question that we will get a chance to decide on when we vote on Proposition P.

It is a measure that's received scant attention in the media, and it will be buried at the end of a long and boring ballot. But it is a critical one for the future of our neighborhood and our city.

Proposition P is a citizens' initiative that will restore district election of supervisors in San Francisco. It will mean that we in the Tenderloin will have a representative who is elected from our district and is accountable to us.

Proposition P will create 11 supervisorial districts in the city and require that supervisors live in the district in which they run. And unlike the last time we had district elections in the late 1970s, the Tenderloin will not be split up into two different districts. This time around, the Tenderloin will be kept together and will be part of District 4, which also includes the Western Addition.

This is a major step forward for the Tenderloin and its ability to have its voice heard at the Board of Supervisors. It means that we will have a supervisor who will have to listen to our issues, like vacancy rent control, highrise and development controls, child care needs, and a new park. And if they don't, we can vote them out of office.

Our current, "at-large" system of

electing supervisors has produced a city government that is captive to powerful special interests. It now costs as much as \$300,000 to mount a successful campaign for a citywide seat on the Board of Supervisors.

Raising \$300,000 in campaign contributions means that "at-large" supervisors must rake in \$200 a day, 365 days a year for every day they are in office.

Have you ever donated \$200 to a Supervisor? Do you know anyone in the Tenderloin who has? So who is it that satisfies the \$200-a-day habit of "at-large" Supervisors?

Last year, the San Francisco Examiner documented the flow of campaign contributions from high-rise developers to members of the Board of Supervisors. They then traced the votes of supervisors who had been on the receiving end of these donations. And guess what? The supervisors voted the way the developers wanted them to. They got special exemptions from planning controls for their projects. They got tailor-made loopholes and grandfather clauses that allowed their buildings to cast shadows over city parks.

The Tenderloin is not a wealthy neighborhood that can buy votes on the Board of Supervisors. Our strength lies in our commitment, our compassion and our ability to mobilize people, not to amass contributions. But under the present "at-large" system of electing Supervisors, these strengths mean relatively little.

"At-large" supervisors know that as long as they keep their names in the news, they'll have the all-important name recognition that is the key to victory in a citywide election. They

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know that they must keep the large contributors happy so they can run an expensive citywide campaign. And they know that incumbent at-large Supervisors almost never lose.

Proposition P will break the \$200-a-day habit once and for all. To run in a small district of just 62,000 people, candidates will have no need to raise \$300,000. They will not need to hire high-priced campaign consultants or send out slick targeted mailings telling one thing to folks in the Tenderloin and another to people in Pacific Heights.

A candidate for district supervisor could actually meet, face-to-face, enough voters to win an election. They will know their district because it's their home. And they will know the problems of their neighborhoods because they share in them.

Electing supervisors by district makes them more accountable. You'll know who your supervisor is, and they may even know who you are. They'll know that if your problems are not solved, you will give them problems in the next election. That's why Congress, the State Assembly, the State Senate—and every other county Board of Supervisors in California—are elected by district. The founding fathers called it "representative government." And it still makes sense.

Proposition P has been endorsed by the North of Market Planning Coalition and by the Rev. Cecil Williams of Glide Church. It has also been endorsed by mayoral candidate Art Agnos and John Molinari, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, State Senator Milton Marks and Supervisors Nancy Walker, Harry Britt, Carol Ruth Silver and Richard Hongisto.

For the future of the Tenderloin and the city, vote YES on Proposition P.

No on W: New Stadium at Public Expense

Did you hear the one about the free baseball stadium that won't cost the taxpayers a penny? The one that will be built on "free" land and won't make traffic worse? The thing is, it's not a joke. It's Proposition W.

Proposition W's supporters bill the measure as a policy statement that would support the construction of a new stadium at Seventh and Townsend streets at "no cost to the city."

But they acknowledge that hotel tax money—paid to the city by tourists—would be used. These funds are currently used to support art projects like the Hospitality House free arts program and the San Francisco Mime Troupe.

They say the land is being "donated" by Santa Fe/Southern Pacific, but the fact is that Santa Fe will be counting on city subsidies of its Mission Bay project in exchange. And what about the new, affordable housing that is supposed to be built a block away in the Mission Bay project? Who will want to live next to a stadium? Ballpark traffic will cause backups on the freeway and gridlock in South of Mar-

ket Streets.

This so-called free stadium is not really free. And at a time when the city claims to be in a budget crisis, when it cannot find enough money to house the homeless, and when AIDS is claiming thousands of lives and threatening to bankrupt the city, does this kind of public obligation really make sense?

We think not. We urge a NO vote on Proposition W.

Yes on G: More Funding for Office of Citizen Complaints

Prop G would remove the current cap on the city's budget for the Office of Citizen Complaints, created in 1982 to handle complaints against the police department. The OCC has a huge work load and a three-month backlog of complaints to investigate. If they are to do their job properly, they need more funds to investigate the scores of complaints they get about the police department each year. Vote YES on Proposition G.

No on T: Don't Discourage Affordable Housing

This proposition is a complicated one, but it could have wide-ranging implications for affordable housing and open space.

It has its origins in a Board of Supervisors' decision earlier this year to close Commercial Street in the financial district and allow the Embarcadero Center to build a pedestrian mall for public use on this city property. On the surface, Proposition T appears to be an effort to stop such use of public lands by requiring voter approval before city property could be transferred or sold.

But the proposition may do more harm than good, by discouraging development of city property for affordable housing and hindering the city's efforts to provide open space, parks, and recreational opportunities.

Even the people who publicly opposed the Board's action on Commercial Street, like Sue Hestor and Calvin Welch, have come out against the Proposition. Many of those opposed to Prop T are concerned that requiring a citywide vote on any sale or transfer of public lands to a developer, who intends to build low or moderate income housing, will discourage low-income projects—because the developer would be forced to mount an expensive political campaign before building.

Those opposed to the proposition include Sue Hestor of San Franciscans for Reasonable Growth, the Affordable Housing Alliance, Calvin Welch of Citizens for Representative Government, six members of the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, as well as mayoral candidates Art Agnos and John Molinari.

We urge you join them in voting NO on Prop T.

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Viet Peace Activist Tells His Story

by Nguyen Huu Liem

Last month Doan Van Toai, author of "Vietnamese Gulag," spoke of his experience as a student anti-war activist in South Vietnam during the war before an audience of about 30 people in Berkeley.

Toai first came to the Bay Area in the late 1960s to urge the U.S. to get out of Vietnam. After the fall of Saigon in 1975, he was arrested by the communist government and imprisoned for two and a half years, although he was never charged with a crime. He was then released without explanation and allowed to leave the country.

Sponsored by the Bay Area chapter of the Social Democratic Party, Toai's emotionally-charged lecture focused on two questions: why liberals and intellectuals in third world countries support communist movements and why Reagan's anti-communist policies have failed in Central America and elsewhere.

Toai asserted that progressive elements in the Third World are being "pushed" over to the Communist side. American attempts to deal with revolutionary movements in those countries fail to recognize the moderate elements, and most of the time the U.S. is seen as the supporter of repressive regimes.

When the Americans come to another country and insist on doing things their own way, regardless of local factors and the complexities of a different political situation, said Toai, they create resentment, which Marxists turn to their advantage.

For these reasons, said Toai, many anti-war activists in Vietnam joined the National Liberation Front, even though they knew it was controlled by the North Vietnamese. "They had no choice," said Toai with feeling.

As an example, Toai told the story of Huynh Tan Mam, a prominent student activist who Toai said was not a member of the Vietnamese Communist party until 1973, after years of torture in South Vietnamese prisons. Mam was recruited by Hanoi as he neared physical and psychological exhaustion, said Toai, adding that the Americans knew of Mam's inhumane treatment but did nothing.

It was clear from the audience's reaction that many there were more politically conservative than Toai.

Nguyen Binh, a Vietnamese student, charged that Toai was manipulated by Hanoi and stated emotionally that Thieu's government was not bad after all. "Thieu was elected by 80 percent of the voters," said Nguyen. "He was a legitimate leader."

Toai shot back: "He was the only candidate in South Vietnam's 1971 presidential election," and corrected Binh's statistic. "You forget that Thieu stated that he was elected by 98.9 percent of the votes."

Between the heated debate and the exceptionally warm full weather, the temperature in the room rose considerably. Toai continuously wiped the sweat off his face and neck.

The debate heated up even more when Douglas Pike, director of the Indochina Archive in Berkeley, asserted that Soviet money was somehow responsible for the anti-war movement in the United States. When Hugh Sheehan, chair of the Bay Area Social Democrats, asked him to substantiate the charge, Pike said he had no evidence, but he believed it was the truth.

The Social Democratic Party is an offshoot of the American Socialist Party that existed before the second World War.

Native Americans on Film



Highlights of this year's Native American film festival include "Daughters of the Country," a four-part series which dramatizes Metis history over a span of three centuries through its women, as well as a tribute to the late Will Sampson, noted Native American actor best known for his role as Chief Bromden in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." The tribute features clips from his films as well as music and dancing of the Creek Nation from Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Dedicated to the presentation of Native Americans in cinema, the four-day festival takes place Thursday, November 12 through Sunday, November 14 at the Palace of Fine Arts Theater, 3301 Lyon Street and Sunday November 15 at the Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th Street. Advance tickets are available through BASS or at the theaters an hour before showtime. For more information call 554-0525.

Former Vietnamese Diplomat Teaches Lessons of War

by Quyen Quoc Tiet

Diem Bui, the Vietnamese ambassador to the United States during the Vietnam war, presented his perspective of the war at a lecture in late September before the World Affairs Council in San Francisco.

In his talk Bui, 64, echoed some of the themes of his new book, "The Jaws of History," in which he gave his analysis of the war. "A good explanation of what went wrong in Vietnam would be the lack of understanding between Americans and Vietnamese," said Bui, who currently lives in Maryland.

Besides cultural misunderstandings between the two countries, Bui said the Vietnamese relied too much on the United States and had a misperception of the extent of American power.

Bui's lecture triggered many ques-

tions from the audience, such as who was to blame for the fall of South Vietnam and what would have happened if there had been more American public support for U.S. government policy in Vietnam.

Bui responded to the questions but added modestly, "No one could pretend to have the knowledge to answer these questions."

The Vietnam experience, Bui said, gives insight into how to deal with other conflicts in the world such as in Korea, the Philippines, Latin America and the Mideast.

Bui said that Vietnam lost almost 300,000 soldiers in the war and suffered civilian casualties in the millions. American deaths numbered 58,000.

"The United States lost its naivete after the Vietnam War," said Bui. "Of course, the Vietnamese lost more than only naivete."

in short

Ribbon-Cutting for Expansion of TL Kids Center

The North of Market Child Development Center held an open house last month to celebrate the expansion of its Golden Gate Avenue facilities and its new ability to serve 20 additional children.

Present at the ribbon-cutting were representatives of institutions that had made the expansion possible, including St. Boniface Community Association, which renovated the building next to the Center's main facility and which will provide rent-free space; the Mayor's Office of Community Development, which funded the renovation project; and the San Francisco Foundation, which supported start-up costs.

"We're delighted about the expansion, but the celebration will be bitter-sweet," said Center Director Marsha Sherman. "Although we now have space to enroll up to 10 more preschoolers, absolutely no funds are available to pay for the cost of their care," said Sherman. The Center currently has 120 low-income children from the Tenderloin on its waiting list.

International Haiku Conference

Many Japanese and local Bay Area poets are expected to come together for a joint U.S.-Japan conference on haiku poetry on Sunday, November 8 at the Hotel Nikko, O'Farrell and Mason Streets, starting at 2 p.m.

Among the scheduled speakers are Professor Makoto Ueda from Stanford University, who will present a short paper entitled "The Frog that Swam Across the Ocean; Japanese and English Readings of Haiku," and Kin'ichi Sawaki, president of the Association

of Haiku Poets, who will be attending the conference with 40 well-known haiku poets from Japan. Professor Kazuo Sato, of Waseda University, will serve as the program moderator.

An informal reception will follow the conference at 6 p.m. at Ichirin Restaurant, for which reservations (\$10 per person) must be made by November 5.

Members of the public are invited to submit an original haiku on the topic "fog" to Seiji Kobara at the Japan Airlines office at 275 O'Farrell Street by November 5. First, second and third prizes will be awarded for outstanding entries during the conference.

United Way Supports AIDS Projects

The Bay Area's United Way has pledged more than \$300,000 a year for three years for a "Crisis Fund" to help two local AIDS organizations, the Shanti Project and the AIDS Foundation. This is the United Way's first special fund in the entire country set up specifically to respond to the AIDS epidemic.

"In light of the increasing gravity of the AIDS crisis we are taking this unique step," said Joseph Valentine, president of the United Way of the Bay Area. "AIDS is an incredible public health crisis and it deserves an extra measure of generosity and concern from United Way donors."

Prior to establishing the special fund, United Way donors had supported AIDS projects through a "donor option program" where they could earmark contributions to specific causes. Under this program, about \$130,000 a year has gone to the AIDS Foundation and \$170,000 to the Shanti Project. The new AIDS Crisis Fund will more than double these donations.

Tenant Woes Return to Dalt Hotel

by Ron Holladay

Tenants at the Dalt Hotel at 34 Turk Street are upset about problems with the building's manager, poor security, and maintenance of the building—so upset that some 30 tenants have moved out, and others are forming a tenants' association to negotiate with the building's management for the changes they want.

Tenants blame poor building security for the two muggings that have happened there in the past four months.

Long-time tenants George Gould and Joe Ancora said present manager Fran Kucharski started going into the rooms without their permission.

When questioned by the Times about this, Kucharski said, "I don't know why you would want to believe that riff-raff. They're being very dishonest."

Randy Shaw of the Tenderloin Housing Clinic, who is giving Dalt tenants legal support, said that in his conversation with Kucharski, she was "extremely rude and hostile."

Shaw is currently defending the eviction of 72-year-old Dalt tenant John Kavanaugh, who is wheelchair-bound. "They told him his T.V. set was too loud and his room was a health hazard," said Shaw. Kucharski refused

to comment on the eviction to the Times.

The Dalt has a history of management problems, dating back to its rehabilitation in 1983 by private developers who received substantial federal and city subsidies. The private corporation, Goldrich and Kest, is now involved in a foreclosure lawsuit because it stopped paying its mortgage in March of 1986.

Because the non-profit organization formed to represent community interests in the project, North of Market Development Corporation, has filed foreclosure against G & K, it has not been able to address tenants' concerns.

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Sequoia Landlord Ordered To Let Tenants Back In

by Sara Colm and Laurence Uebersfeld

There were several new developments in the long-raging battle by Tenderloin tenant activists against the alleged conversion of the Pacific Bay Inn at 520 Jones last month. The first was a decision by a hearing officer for the Bureau of Building Inspection that the 80-room hotel, formerly known as the Sequoia, had not rented more than its legal allotment of tourist units during the summer months.

In a separate decision, three former tenants of the hotel, Charles Rich, Jimmy Flanagan, and Constantinos Kottaridis, who were displaced by a fire in 1985, won a court injunction ordering landlord Adam Sparks to let them move back into the building at their previous rents.

"It was a tremendous victory," said Randy Shaw of the Tenderloin Housing Clinic, who filed the lawsuit on behalf of the three tenants. "It's very important that the court recognize that just because there is a fire, that doesn't mean that tenants can't go back to their former housing. Fires happen, but that's no rationale for depriving tenants of their lower rent."

Charles Rich, 74, who had lived in the Sequoia for more than 30 years, said, "I'm excited, but I don't think he'll let us back in. We'll wait and see."

The tenants said that when the hotel re-opened in July 1987 they were told they could not move back in, unless they were willing to pay the new tourist rates which would come to \$1,020 a month.

"The landlord said we all left the building willingly and gave back our keys but we all have our keys with us," said Kottaridis, adding that the fire department told him to leave, and he had expected to be able to move back in at his former rent of \$128 within a matter of months.

Sparks, who is appealing the court decision, called it an "emotional-sympathy type of thing" on the part of the judge. "They aren't tenants," he said. "Tenants don't have a lifetime right to re-enter a building damaged by fire."

A complaint by the North of Market Planning Coalition that Sparks was violating the hotel conversion ordinance had spurred the unsuccessful

administrative hearing before the Bureau of Building Inspection in September. While Hearing Officer Robert Curran stated that the evidence strongly suggested that the hotel "is now marketed, designed and aimed for tourism, not residential use," he found that the hotel had not exceeded its legal limit of 32 tourist rooms during the summer months.

After October 1, the end of the tourist season, Sparks' legal tourist allotment dropped to 15 rooms. So, on October 14, some 40 members of the Planning Coalition's housing com-



Sequoia tenants Charles Rich, Jimmy Flanagan and Constantinos Kottaridis.

mittee met with Building Inspector Joe Grubb and City Attorney Rick Judd to see whether the hotel had been inspected since October 1 for violation of the hotel conversion ordinance.

"We're pretty convinced that Sparks is going to have to break the ordinance now," said Coalition president Kelly Cullen. "Otherwise, he will have a lot of empty rooms."

At the meeting, several housing committee members told the city representatives that they had seen large tour groups—more people than could fit into the 15 tourist rooms—going into the Sequoia since the first of October.

Tenderloin resident David Baker said that on October 14, he saw a tour bus with around 100 people waiting in front of the hotel. He questioned some of them and found out that they were

from Switzerland and were staying in the hotel.

"It's my feeling Sparks is marketing his rooms very aggressively," Baker said.

When asked whether large tour groups were staying in his hotel, Sparks said, "I have no comment on that. It's not worth refuting." In response to accusations that he was now exceeding his legal quota of tourists, he said he had kept within his limits.

At the meeting, Grubb said BBI hadn't inspected the hotel since October 1 because they were waiting for the results of the BBI hearing. "The Planning Coalition needs to file a new complaint for (alleged violations) after October 1," Grubb added.

Judd refused to say whether the city

attorney planned to take any legal action against Sparks if violations were found.

"That's not the only alternative," he said. "If we think the evidence is strong and we have people to do it, we will take action. The city doesn't have the knowledge or the manpower to go after each housing code violation."

Former Sequoia tenant Ron Halfhill responded: "You're insulting me by equating building code violations, like peepholes or dirty halls, to something like clearing 80 residents out of a hotel."

Cullen added, "We need legal action. What do we need to do to get it? If he (Sparks) were shooting someone, you wouldn't wait for all the bodies."

Immediately after the meeting the Coalition filed another complaint with BBI, which they hope will spur another inspection of the hotel and new administrative hearing to determine whether Sparks is currently renting out more than 15 tourist rooms.



crimes in the heart

by Josh Brandon

Since its earliest days, the Tenderloin, which is said to have gotten its name from police slang, has had a reputation as a high-crime, red light district. In those days, foot patrols assigned to the Tenderloin received more money for the more dangerous beats, and also possibly from pay-offs, and could therefore buy the more expensive cuts of tenderloin beef. This month the Tenderloin Times starts a regular crime column which will investigate the hard facts on crimes committed in the heart of the city, and also discuss crime prevention tips.

Robberies were down seven percent in the Tenderloin last year, while city-wide, robberies dropped less than 1 percent. But to take a walk late at night in the Tenderloin is still risky, according to an analysis of the Computer Assisted Bay Area Law Enforcement report for August, 1987.

A quarter of all reported robberies in the city take place in the Tenderloin. Of the nearly 50 robberies reported in August to the Northern and Central police districts that protect the 50-block Tenderloin, almost two of every three happened between 6 p.m. and 4 a.m.

But the reality may be much worse, according to Sergeant Dennis Gustafson, coordinator of the Senior Crime Prevention section of the police department.

"About three fourths of the robberies committed against older adults are not reported; over half are not reported by the monolingual Asian Americans, and the figure is at least that high among the transients," Gustafson told the Times.

The most dangerous day of the month are what police refer to as "Mother's Day"—the first and fifteenth when welfare checks are issued—and "Gray Day," the third of the month when the elderly receive their Social Security payments. In general, the first five days of the month are the period when a robbery will most likely occur.

Gustafson pointed out that simple precautions can greatly reduce a robber's opportunity to strike:

- Take special care in the Tenderloin in the evening, especially from 10 p.m. through the hours when bars

close. When walking in the Tenderloin at night, go with a friend or a group. Lone individuals are the target of 97 percent of robberies.

- Choose your route carefully by staying away from trouble areas, among which Gustafson listed the Turk Street corridor between Mason and Leavenworth and the edge of Boedeker Park. The safest areas—where no robberies were reported in August—are the Civic Center and the block bounded by Post, Powell, Geary and Mason across from Union Square.

- Stay in well-lighted areas and away from alleys and dark corners.

- Carry only whatever valuables you can afford to lose.

- Money, identification, and keys should be concealed on your person. To avoid any large losses, carry just a few dollars in your purse or in a second wallet which you can afford to give up if you have to.

- If sleeping on the streets, share your resting space with another person if you know and trust them.

- If you are robbed, make every effort to accurately remember the details about the incident and the description of the person. Contact the police immediately.

Gustafson added that the roving patrol of civilian escorts through the Police Department's program for those 55 or older will begin again at the start of 1988. The Senior Escort Program, which provided over 700,000 protective escorts in nine years without one crime incident, was recently curtailed through staff attrition and Mayor Feinstein's police hiring freeze.

Gustafson added that the roving patrol of civilian escorts through the Police Department's program for those 55 or older will begin again at the start of 1988. The Senior Escort Program was recently curtailed through staff attrition and Mayor Feinstein's police hiring freeze.

More police on the streets will not solve the basic causes of crime, cautioned Gustafson. "The Tenderloin must reach four goals to really attack crime there," he said, listing affordable housing, substance abuse programs, education and jobs.

"When the Tenderloin can provide this," Gustafson said, "street crime will fade away and vanish."



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on your 10th anniversary
from your friends
at the Lurie Company*



*Our sincere thanks to
the Lurie Company
for being stalwart supporters
and gracious hosts
at our 10th anniversary reception.*

Cambodians Seek Families In Aftermath Of Killing Fields

by Sophath Pak

In 1975 when Cambodia fell to the Khmer Rouge, thousands of families were split up without warning and sent to labor camps in the countryside. In the chaos and confusion of war, many were separated from friends and families at that time and never heard from them again.

But recently Cambodian refugees in San Francisco told the Tenderloin Times that they are starting to find their relatives again and are sending mail through people they know in France and Canada, countries that have diplomatic relations with the current government in Cambodia.

After 12 years with no news from his sister's family, Tenderloin resident Sovith Kem told the Times that after writing her several letters a year ago, he recently received a letter from her last month. He got his sister's current address through someone who lived in the same village back in Cambodia and later escaped to the United States.

Kem has found that it is now possible to send letters to Cambodia from the United States, but not packages or gifts. "I lost \$20 I sent to my sister there months ago," he said. "I also sent her two packages of gifts, but she told me that she only kept one because she had to sell the other one to pay the tax."

Currently under a new government and trying to rebuild the country after the four-year genocidal regime of the Khmer Rouge, who were ousted in 1979, Cambodia's post and telecommunication systems are still not back up to speed. During the Khmer Rouge's regime, telecommunication services were completely turned off, post offices were destroyed and their workers executed.

Heng Khiev, president of San Francisco Fucinpec chapter (a group that supports former Prince Sihanouk), said, "There's no guarantee at all if you want to send something to Cambodia by mail," because Cambodia doesn't have relations with the United States.

Also, the Cambodian government might see Cambodian refugees in the United States as their enemy, said Khiev, and might monitor any mail from them.

Tenderloin resident My Lay, who escaped from Cambodia in late 1983, said that he received one letter from his brother when he was in Cambodia, but the money that was enclosed was gone. The best way to send money, said Lay, is to send it to a friend or relative in France or Canada and have them forward the letter. "I don't know why it works, but maybe (it's because) they have good relations (with Cambodia)," said Lay.

High Drama at NOMPC Meeting

by Laurence Uebersfeld

Members of the North of Market Planning Coalition performed a lively skit during their October 10 membership meeting to retrace the history of their struggle against the tourist conversion of the Sequoia Hotel at 520 Jones Street. Budding activists-turned-actors drew chuckles from the audience as they recreated the Coalition's feisty efforts to get the Bureau of Building Inspector to enforce the hotel conversion ordinance in the Tenderloin. "Will you meet with us?" Tho Do persistently asked Richard Allman, who played the part of a reluctant hotel inspector.

The skit was used to announce an upcoming meeting between Coalition members and representatives from the Bureau of Building Inspection. In addition, a report was given from the Coalition's Zoning Committee, which is concerned about plans for a new convention center called Renaissance West proposed for the block adjacent to the Ramada Hotel. A report from the Tenderloin Jobs Coalition was given by NOMPC Executive Director Nancy Russell, who stressed the importance for the Tenderloin to "get its fair share from the Nikko Hotel." The Planning Coalition wants centralized screening to coordinate hiring of Tenderloin residents in the luxury hotels located in the neighborhood.

Refreshments, songs and piano music rounded out the meeting before its adjournment.

New Lao Journal Takes First Step



Photo: Lance Woodruff

Vandy Sivongsay at the kickoff for the new Lao paper.

by Chantanom Ounkeo

Last month Vandy Sivongsay, a former journalist and publisher in Laos, opened up an office in the YMCA on Golden Gate and invited community members in to bless his ambitious efforts to start a statewide Lao newspaper.

Called "Seriphape" or "Freedom," Sivongsay's monthly newspaper will be a private enterprise financed by subscribers and advertising, as well as business backers from San Diego and the Tenderloin.

While there are Thai newspapers in California that many Lao can read easily, as well as the Tenderloin Times with its Lao-language section, Sivongsay explained the need for a new Lao monthly.

"The Thai newspapers are good here, but they don't cover Lao culture and don't see things the same way we

do," he said. "I know the Tenderloin Times has had its Lao page for some time now, and that's great for Tenderloin Lao. We are trying to do something different. We will start to bring together serious news coming out of Laos itself—news our community is waiting for because all we get right now is old news brought by refugees or communist propaganda."

Instead, Sivongsay says he will be using special sources from people still in Laos, and also cover events in the Lao communities throughout California.

"We want the news to tell us what's happening all over the place—with our relatives in San Diego or our friends in Washington State," said Sivongsay. "We think about our homeland all the time, and we long for news from there, too."

Sivongsay is shooting for a mid-November publication date for the first edition of Seriphape.

North of Market Voters Club & Tenderloin Residents & Workers urge you to vote for.

ART AGNOS FOR MAYOR

Also, North of Market Voters Club recommends:

YES ON P (District Elections)
NO ON W (New Stadium at Public Expense)

- Art Agnos is the only candidate who supports rent control on vacant units.
- Art Agnos has fought for the rights of renters, seniors, gays and lesbians, women, refugees, families and the disabled.

The following Tenderloin Neighbors Endorse Art For Mayor:

- (partial list) Ricard Allman, Jordan Bach, Wendell Bennett, Yvanne Bennett, Hazel Blackwell, Lulu Carter, Edwin Cladwell, Fannie Clark, Dan Collins, Jeanne Comaskey, Kevin Comaskey, Dennis Conklin, Win Cottrell, Lillian Crasthwaite, Bro. Kelly Cullen, Huu Danh, San Daa, Angle DeLeo, Kathy Desllets, Darwin Dias, Tha Do, Ed Illumin, LaMarr Fields, Elaine Fareman, Keith Grier, Rascoe Hawkins, Dan Higgins, Charles Havine, Stephen Jacobsan, Thelma Kavanagh, Alyce Kimerling, Peggy Kranz, Sue Kwanda, Susan Liebhaber, Kathy Loaper, Leray Loaper, Liz Lujan, Alice McGee, Cathy Merschel, Rattha Mey, Sarah Murphy, Mlio Nadler, Llang Nee, Hung Van Nga, Viet Nguyen, Richard Parker, Brad Paul, Howard Penn, Greg Pennington, Fr. Robert Pfisterer, Gregory Ranno, Jonathan Runckie, Dean Saelaa, Esther Savin, Estelle Seeba, Babbie Lee Sellers, Ann Marie Sinfield, Randy Shaw, Sitha Sum, Heidi Swarts, Michael Tarbox, Vinh Minh Tran, Jean Welch, Simean White, Midge Wilson

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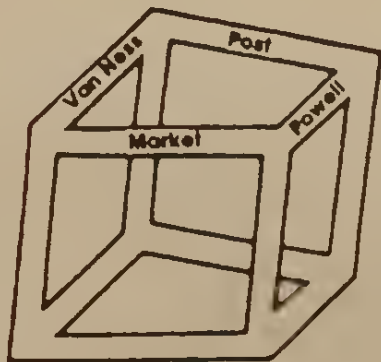
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Congratulations
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As Bay Area journalists, we salute a great community newspaper as it celebrates its 10th anniversary of multi-lingual muckraking.

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Dexter Waugh, *SF Examiner*
Bernard Ohanian, *Mother Jones*
David Beers, *Image Magazine*
Betty Medsger, *SF State Journalism Dept.*
Rollin Post, *KRON-TV*
Diana Hembree, *Center for Investigative Reporting*
Raul Ramirez, *SF Examiner*
Katy Butler, *SF Chronicle*
Deirdre English
Larry Lee, *KRON-TV*
Gerald D. Adams, *SF Examiner*
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everybody's business

Knight's Day

by Pete Childress

When Knight's Restaurant, a Tenderloin institution for 24 years, closed its doors for good on October 9, they ended not with a whimper but with an old fashioned Irish wake.

"It's like death," commented Ed McGovern as he summed up his feelings about the restaurant he and his wife Maggie gave 24 years of their lives to.

Knight's Restaurant died because Hastings College of the Law has plans to develop a commercial office building on the block and won't renew the lease, McGovern said.

"I used to kick the Hastings students out for hogging the tables with their brown-bag lunches," said busboy Michael Whooley with a rueful grin.

"It's a hard situation," McGovern said. "They only offered us a month-to-month agreement." A month's notice is not enough warning for him to move his business from the Golden Gate site, he said, so he decided to move before that possibility became a reality.

Harder than having to move was letting half of his 10-person workforce go, including Whooley, all of whom had worked at Knight's for 10 years or more.

This Tenderloin gustatory landmark on Golden Gate and Larkin has had a rich history. Through its doors walked the famous and the infamous, the rich and the poor.

Whooley commented wistfully: "You know, Ed never turned the unfortunates away. He'd always give them some soup and sandwiches to keep them alive.

Margie McGovern, one of McGovern's eight children, seemed both concerned and philosophical. "It's hard on Dad. He's 60 and has to start all over again," she said.



Photo: Lance Woodruff

Margie and Ed McGovern (left) gathered with staff from Knight's Cafeteria on closing day.

and more restaurants, which translates into fewer customers and more competition.

Even though Knight's Restaurant is no more, all's not lost: Knight's Catering lives on. As soon as affairs are wrapped up at the Golden Gate Avenue location, McGovern says the catering business will be moving to 550 Alabama, near 18th and Harrison in Potrero Hill.

The band was playing "Edelweiss" when someone brought out a large cake decorated with yellow roses. As the singer finished the last, sad stanza of the song, "bless my home forever," I saw the inscription on the cake: "It's not the end of an era; it's the beginning of the new."

It was a fitting tribute both to

Knight's Restaurant and to the Tenderloin itself.

LOOSE CHANGE

Leroy and Kathy Looper of the Sizzler and the Cadillac Hotel got a nice write-up in the October 12 edition of the New Yorker... check it out. Sony Sok, owner of Angkor Chum restaurant on Eddy Street has opened up a splendid new Cambodian eatery called Angkor Palace at 1769 Lombard Street.

The Concerned Businesspersons of the Tenderloin held a mayoral candidates' forum at their October 13 meeting in the Ramada Renaissance. Even though all the candidates were invited, only one, Cesar Ascarrunz, showed up.

Everhart spoke for Art Agnos. Nobody showed up from the Molinari campaign. The full house on hand was subjected to a short campaign speech by perennial candidate and City Hall gadfly Crown Prince Arcadia, who, according to the members of the audience I talked to, made more sense than anyone on the panel except Agnos' representative.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 3!

eatin' the loin

by Preston Brady III

Taqueria Chula
164 Taylor Street (at Eddy)
775-5970
Open Daily 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Challenge anyone to find a Mexican restaurant in San Francisco with a poor boy's burrito for \$1.60.

Big servings of great Mexican food come from a menu with prices like these at Taqueria Chula: a chicken, pork or beef taco for \$1.80, a grilled steak taco for \$2.00, and burritos for \$1.60 to \$2.40.

The most expensive item on the menu is an enchilada, at \$2.75 a la carte. But this is no ordinary enchilada. Mine was huge and packed with ground beef, tomatoes, rice, cheese, and even little bites of potatoes, all steaming in a juicy sauce.

The stretch of the Tenderloin where this "pretty taqueria" is located is not a pretty one, but that doesn't stop the Golden Gate Theatre crowd and others from dining at Original Joe's, right next door to Taqueria Chula.

This block always looks like a Fellini movie, and some of the characters are all too real. But inside the taqueria, great care is taken with fresh ingredients and generous portions, behind a sparkling clean counter where the food is cooked and served.

With its bright table cloths, plants and orange walls, the decor of this taqueria is nothing fancy, but if you love Mexican food, you owe it to yourself to try this place.

Advertisement for St. Vincent De Paul Thrift Store, listing two branches: Tenderloin Branch at 472 Ellis Street and Our Big Main Store at 1745 Folsom Street. Includes phone numbers and a logo.

Large advertisement for Sizzler Steak Seafood Salad, featuring the Sizzler logo and text in multiple languages including English, Lao, and Thai.

the tender side

by Keith Grier

Winter is coming and the food lines are getting longer. More and more people seem to be on the streets, and while more are applying for aid, the paradox is that more are being cut off. Seems to me that money is not the answer, nor does a political solution seem near at hand. Those are valuable tools indeed, but only tools. What is needed is compassion. Compassion is the ultimate wealth and without it, the so-called tools are like computers in the hands of apes.

The Mayor's In-school Youth Program needs help. Because of the huge deficit, the mayor suspended the program as a cost-cutting measure. I urge Tenderloinians concerned with youth issues to write the mayor.

What if there's an earthquake in San Francisco? NOMPC executive director Nancy Russell says that as a community, we need to be prepared when the big one hits. She's researching the issue at City Hall, particularly to see whether there are earthquake safety tips published in the Southeast Asian languages.

I went to a crime abatement meeting this month at the Cadillac Hotel's newly opened ballroom, which was full of art by Tenderloin residents. Check out the show if you can.

There was lots of spirit, and yes, courage, shown by members of the community during the Jefferson Hotel fire last month, as people warned the residents of the top-floor blaze and helped an older person down a fire

escape after he had crawled out of the smoke somewhat disoriented . . . All before the police or fire department arrived. It was heartwarming and encouraging, but why does it take a disaster to bring us together?

Watch out for your kids! Last month an Asian child fell off the fire escape at his home. Speaking of kids, I've been told Tyrone is doing fine. He is recovering from his fall in the park and is walking and talking again. Our football team misses him. Hope to see you soon, Tyrone.

There's more kids than pigeons in the neighborhood. . . signs of life all around and definite evidence that the Tenderloin is blooming, not decaying.

Start thinking now about running for the board of the North of Market Planning Coalition. . . their annual elections start with nominations in January. At least seven seats on the 21-member board will be up this year. The board could use a little more balance, so as to be more representative of the community, if you catch my drift. But it's up to us in the community to recruit and elect those that would help create that balance, bring new ideas and work for the community. Think about it.

J.B. Saunders, Mari Bianca and a few friends attended the League of Women Voters' mayoral debate at the Palace of Fine Arts last month. It seems they were the only poor people there. They couldn't pay the \$25 to meet and eat with the candidates.

Here's a story with a happy ending: When Tenderloin Heights resident Pete Childress lost his best friend Jasmine, a gray and yellow cockatiel, he was heartbroken and posted signs

Money Does Grow On Trees

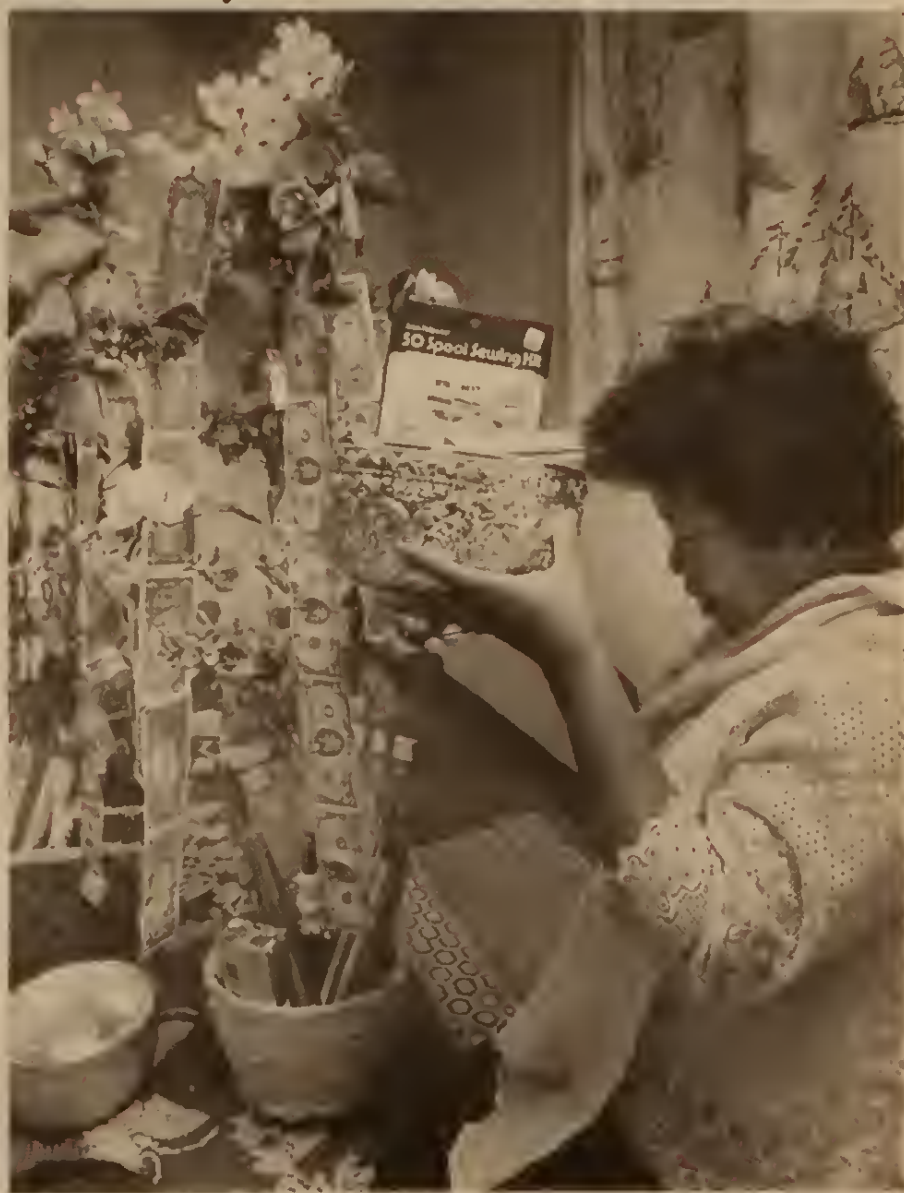


Photo: Lance Woodruff

Members of the Lao community gathered in a Leavenworth Street building last month to make offerings and form a "money tree" to raise funds for the Lao Buddhist temple in Oakland.

Blacks and Asians Together



Photo: Lance Woodruff

Cambodians and blacks got together for a second "cultural exchange" party last month at the 509 club. Above, Sitha Sum, Kong Proeung, Mitchell Bonner and Darrell Godbey get down to some good grub, provided by Walter Hampton.

ASIAN PACIFIC OUTREACH ADVOCATE

32 hrs/wk to provide advocacy and rights education to Asian mental health consumers. Bilingual. Civil rights advocacy exp. reqd. Full benefits. Send cover letter, resume and references by Nov. 13 to Patients' Rights Advocacy Services, 2325 Third St., Ste. 422, S.F., CA 94107.

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throughout the Tenderloin. Two people called to tell him they'd spotted the bird—one saw her down around the Embarcadero and the other saw her trying to enter a window on the 23rd floor of a highrise on Fremont St.

Pete posted more signs and got a call the next day from a woman who had found Jasmine the previous evening and taken her home to San Carlos. "My beloved feathered friend is now home with me again because of the kindness of unknown strangers," said Pete.

I'm directing a play in Hunter's Point, "The Amen Corner," by James Baldwin. It opened the end of October. Watch for posters around the neighborhood and come see it if you can.

Meanwhile at the often turbulent, never-a-dull-moment Aarti Co-op, there's been a change at the top. The Co-op president has been removed by the board and replaced by an interim president, pending a new vote. Perhaps smoother sailing lies ahead. Also, rumor has it, other "leadership" changes are in order. . . something about substance over style, or "walk it like you talk it."

Enough is enough. Did you, as I did, think we were being invaded last month when the Blue Angels buzzed the neighborhood at rooftop level? Could have sworn I heard a tank rumbling up Leavenworth. . . I don't know what Cory Aquino is ashamed about—I sure as hell would have been under the bed, you dig?

Robin Wechsler, ex-TSOP director, had a 10-pound baby boy. Nice going, Robin!

Sgt. John Herrington of SFPD just had another baby. I forgot whether it was a boy or a girl but I do know he has grandchildren. What a man—he'll go on forever.

Sorry I missed your birthday last month, Donna Hoang. May you have many, many more.

Steven, where are you? Steven worked at the Montessori school on Eddy Street. He and some of their volunteers worked all day one Saturday to clean the sand in the play area in Boed-

deker Park. The community and Park and Rec thank you.

We were all sorry to hear that former Tenderloin resident Chan Thou died last month, leaving behind her husband and 8 children.

Michael Tarbox and his wife Kim Yok Chea had a baby girl last month. They named her Thary, after Kim's sister, who she hasn't seen in nine years. The day after the baby was born they got a letter from Cambodia, telling them the location of the long-lost sister. How's that for the good news department!

One of my brothers passed along these thoughts about drinking and what it's doing to the community by killing our spirit: Ever make love to a vampire? Sure you have, only you call it "Wild Irish Rose." And you ain't wild, and you ain't Irish, and you sure don't smell like a rose. Pour your blood in a bottle and call yourself free. You might fool yourself but you ain't fooling me.

Hospitality House Executive Director Robert Tobin was surprised last month to get a call from a volunteer from the U.S. Mission shelter, asking for donations to cook Thanksgiving dinner for the homeless and provide turkeys to several Tenderloin organizations, including Hospitality House. Turns out that particular phone soliciter was misinformed about where the donations were to go.

Congratulations to Eddy Street resident Vondevane Phetthiraj who gave birth to a healthy baby boy October 12.

Yes, I know the tone is a little different this month, but it seems to me that anyone with access to pen, page and public has a responsibility to bring certain issues to light. But this is not gloom and doom. Compassion is what the Tenderside is all about.

Compassion automatically invites you to relate with people, because you no longer regard people as a drain on your energy. So lend a hand, y'know? And we can do more than just survive.

Making Viet Votes Count

continued from page 1

French and later the Americans.

Despite these odds, in recent years, three different Vietnamese political clubs have formed in San Francisco. All three are playing a part in the upcoming election.

At an October 2 fundraiser sponsored by the Vietnamese American Action Committee (VAAC), formed in 1986, members handed mayoral candidate Art Agnos a \$10,000 campaign contribution check.

Another group, the Viet Nam Dan Chu Democratic Club ("Dan Chu" means democratic in Vietnamese), have formally endorsed Agnos, and sponsored a fundraising reception for him on October 9.

The third group, the Vietnamese American Democratic Club (VADC), held several mayoral candidates' forums this fall. They do not formally endorse candidates but are engaged in voter education, outreach and registration.

VADC, formed in 1982, is the oldest of the three clubs. "From the beginning we recognized that it was important for us to become informed participants in the electoral process," said VADC President Vu-duc Vuong, who is also executive director of the Tenderloin-based Center for Southeast Asian Refugee Resettlement. "We had early support from local politicians such as Phil Burton. As our numbers increased, it became justifiable to form our own clubs which would address Vietnamese issues."

The fishing industry, the Bay Area economy (particularly the shipping and port industry), district elections, and issues affecting children and the elderly were among the issues raised at the mayoral forums, Vuong said.

VAAC, which has about 70 members, also does not formally endorse candidates. "However, we support those that have demonstrated sensitivity to the Vietnamese community," said VAAC member Chieu Pham. "Some candidates are only now coming to us, but Agnos clearly has over a 10-year record of working on our behalf."

According to Pham, Agnos established a legislative committee on refugees in the State Senate and pushed for a refugee to be a member. In addition, said Pham, "He's fought bills, such as SB 255, which would have restricted Vietnamese fishermen."

Economic development, affordable housing and bilingual education are other issues important to Vietnamese, according to Pham. Adds VAAC Secretary Nguyen Nguyen, "We're concentrating now on building power and registering as many people as possible."

The Dan Chu Club, with about 35 members, was organized a year ago to promote the growth of Vietnamese

membership in the Democratic party, conduct voter education, and encourage Vietnamese to run for elective offices. The club works closely with other local democratic clubs, according to Vice President Duc Nguyen, "to develop coalitions necessary to be an effective player in the process."

Last month Dan Chu President Michael Huynh attended a national Asian democratic caucus in Los Angeles to represent Dan Chu as a delegate and hear presidential candidates. "It is essential that we learn the ropes to have access and input to political decision-making," said Nguyen.

Vietnam's colonial legacy may be a damper on political organizing in the United States. "Because of foreign control, prior to World War II we always held our political activities underground," explained Vuong. "We've had to adjust to above-ground politics—a new ball game. We will have to carry this cultural luggage as we integrate into American society."

For many of the new arrivals, survival needs—finding jobs and housing—still take precedent over political participation, said Pham.

About 10 percent of the city's Vietnamese population is estimated to be citizens, and thus eligible to vote, according to Pham.

Nguyen said that some Vietnamese had been interested in Louise Renne's mayoral campaign, but most will now probably vote for Agnos.

"Art's done everything from visiting a refugee camp to advocacy working on behalf of Vietnamese fishermen," he said. "No other candidate has his 10-year track record."

Both Pham and Vuong predicted that Agnos will be the frontrunner among Vietnamese voters.

Of the estimated 800,000 Southeast Asians in the United States, about half have settled in California. While most are in the central and southern part of the state, about 120,000 live in the Bay Area. With time, more will become voting citizens and will start to influence not only San Francisco politics, but state and national elections as well.

"A successful candidate needs two basic things, money and votes," said Pham. "We intend to provide both."

TENDERLOIN TIMES TRANSLATION SERVICE
Lao, Cambodian Vietnamese
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Photo: Lance Woodruff

Tu Anh Nguyen, 10, sang the Moon Festival song while the other children danced in a procession with candle lanterns in last month's Tet Trung Thu.

Moons, Balloons and Tigers Come Alive in Viet Festival

by Quyen Quoc Tiet

Rather than having to scale the fence to get in after hours, Tenderloin children got a chance to play in Boeddeker Park as dusk fell on October 7. The park stayed open for a special Vietnamese festival, "Tet Trung Thu," which is the Mid-Autumn (or "Moon") Festival.

Organized by the North of Market Planning Coalition and the Vietnamese Youth Development Center, the program included story telling, games, songs, a children's march and the serving of traditional mooncakes. The festival is held each fall during the time when the moon is at its brightest in an unusually clear sky.

"This celebration is to let the Vietnamese children remember their tradition and let children of other cultures know something of the Vietnamese culture," said Tho Do, of the Vietnamese Youth Development Center.

Planning Coalition staffer Khanh Hong Phan assembled the children to hear the traditional story behind the festival.

There are many fables about "Cuoi," the mythological character associated with Tet Trung Thu. Sometimes he's depicted as a naughty liar who tricks a balloon salesman out of his balloons and then is lifted up to the moon where he remains, all by his lonesome, to this day.

Phan told a different version of the

story. Once upon a time, she said, there was a woodsman and hunter named Chu Cuoi (Uncle Cuoi). One day Cuoi found two baby tigers in the forest and killed them. Upon hearing the mother tiger's roar, he climbed up a tree to hide.

The tigress was very upset and went to another tree, similar to an oak, and took the leaves, chewed them up and then put them over the bodies of the baby tigers. A moment later, the tigers were brought back to life, and off they went. Cuoi thought: "This is the healing tree."

Cuoi brought the tree back home with him and used its leaves to help the people in his village. He devoted a lot of time and energy to the tree, and his wife became jealous of his devotion to it. One day while Cuoi was gone, she chopped the tree down. It did not fall, however, but rose into the air. Cuoi got back just at that moment and grabbed the tree to pull it down.

But the tree carried Cuoi up to the sky and flew to the moon. Ever since that day, we can see the pattern of the tree on the moon and Cuoi sitting under it. Each year at the brightest moon during Tet Trung Thu, we can see Cuoi looking back to earth.

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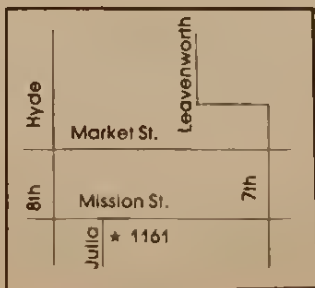
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Another Side of Gottstein

by Kevin Martin

It was noon on Thursday, October 22, and this reporter was headed to the Cadillac Hotel ballroom to review a performance called "Adam Sings." Adam Gottstein, owner of Apparel Cleaners, president of the Concerned Businesspersons of the Tenderloin, and community activist, was going to reveal yet another side of himself—singer-songwriter. Quite frankly, I was prepared to be polite.

The ballroom of the Cadillac Hotel is a beautifully proportioned room, graced by an immense skylight that even on cloudy days fills the room with a wonderful light. The tall ceilings and wooden floors provide excellent acoustics, an ideal setting for a singer-guitarist.

Leroy Looper, executive director of the Cadillac Hotel, made some opening remarks. "This is all about doing, not just talking," said Looper. "If you have a dream, act on it."

So, Gottstein took the plunge, and the results were quite extraordinary. Without any amplification, and with only a guitar, a stool, and himself, Gottstein proceeded to charm the crowd of 50 people, holding them in the palm of his hand throughout the performance.

He opened with "San Francisco Bay Blues," a classic folk tune that has been done by Richie Havens and Phoebe Snow. He then stopped to tell

the audience that he "really was doing this for no particular reason. The timing seemed right—that's all." He went on to sing a haunting version of "Nature Boy," and the lyrics of the song seemed to sum up the spirit of his performance—"to love and be loved in return."

Gottstein then proceeded to sing a series of songs he and his wife Meg Gottstein have written. These jazz-influenced tunes were like a musical landscape of this young man's life. "Dry Cleaner Blues" was a delightful tune that explained that particular career move. "Howard's Song" dealt with the death of his father, and it had such a universal quality that it could apply to the loss of parents everywhere.

Gottstein displayed mastery of his instrument, and his voice was superbly suited to the different styles of the songs he interpreted. He could have had a full-time career as a performing artist, but he chose not to. "I feel that sometimes when you're being paid to constantly ... perform, you lose something," he said. "I don't want to lose any of this, and I'm fortunate that I don't have to."

The Cadillac Hotel ballroom would be the ideal location for a series of lunch-time performances of this nature, which could benefit both audiences and performers. Let's hope that in the future we will witness a great deal more of this.

calendar

Compiled by Dianne M. Clohessy

DAILY

Alcoholics Anonymous: 291 Eddy St., Monday thru Friday, 7:30 p.m. **Free.**

Conflict Resolution: Over-the-phone counseling assistance for all kinds of conflicts—family, roommates, landlords, neighbors. Monday thru Friday, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Call 239-6100. **Free.**

Emotional Support Peer Counseling: For PWA's, their families, friends, lovers, and people coping with the loss of a loved one through AIDS. Call for times and locations, 777-CARE. **Free.**

Crisis Line: Crisis Line for the disabled. Twenty-four hr. 800-426-4263.

General Assistance Advocacy Project: Counseling and representation by law student advocates for problems with G.A. and Food Stamps. 383 Eddy, Mon.-Fri. 8:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. **Free.**

AIDS Counseling: For women. Sponsored by the Partners Outreach Project. Call 821-8764.

MONDAYS

Fitness Classes: For seniors. Have more energy, flexibility, mobility, vitality! Central City YMCA, 220 Golden Gate. Warm-up 8 a.m. Class 8:45 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays. **Free** to members. Non-members 8 weeks/\$10.00.

Prenatal Classes in Cantonese: Health Center #4, 1490 Mason St., 6-8 p.m. Call 558-2308. \$1.00 per class or **free.**

Life Drawing and Sculpture Workshop: Hospitality House, 146 Leavenworth, 7-10 p.m. **Free.**

TUESDAYS

Tai Chi Class: Conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays on the Rooftop Garden of the Central City YMCA, 220 Golden Gate. Call 1-2 p.m. Call Senior Center for details.

Small Appliance Repair: Learn to fix things yourself with a handyman's help. Central YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, 9 a.m.-noon. **Free.**

Support Group: For battered gay men. Led by a licensed therapist. Community United Against Violence, 514 Castro St., 7:30-9 p.m. Call 864-3112. **Free.**

Tenderloin Sewing and Quilting Group: Learn and share skills and materials. 54 McAllister St., 1-3 p.m. Call 558-8759. **Free.**

AIDS Antibody Testing: Planned Parenthood is offering AIDS antibody testing at the Financial District Women's Health Center at 582 Market St. 5-7:30 p.m., by appointment, call 982-0707. \$45.00.

Information Exchange: For women with AIDS or ARC. S.F. AIDS Foundation, 25 Van Ness, Sixth Floor, 2-3 p.m. **Free.**

WEDNESDAYS

Women Writer's Workshop: For older lesbians (60+) and friends. Sponsored by Operation Concern/GLOE. 1853 Market St., 6-8 p.m. Call 626-7000. **Free.**

Crime Abatement Committee: First Wednesday of every month. Cadillac Hotel Ballroom, 380 Eddy St. Noon. **Free.**

Tenderloin Police/Community Relations Committee: Cadillac Hotel Ballroom, 380 Eddy St. First Wednesday of every month. 1 p.m.

Block Captains' Meeting: Cadillac Hotel Ballroom, 380 Eddy St. Noon.

North of Market Housing Committee: The Committee works to educate Tenderloin tenants and to improve building conditions. 308 Eddy St., 11 a.m. **Free.**

Rhythm Band: For seniors, 481 O'Farrell, 9:30 a.m. **Free.**

Tenderloin Writer's Workshop: Hospitality House, 146 Leavenworth St., 7-10 p.m. **Free.**

THURSDAYS

Quilting Classes: Tenderloin Self-Help Center, 191 Golden Gate, 9-11 a.m. **Free.**

Women Writers Workshop: For women working or living in the Tenderloin. Bay Area Women's Resource Center, 318 Leavenworth. 4-5:30 p.m. **Free.**

FRIDAYS

Women's Day: Rap groups, socializing, a chance to meet other women. Tenderloin Self-Help Center, 191 Golden Gate, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. **Free.**

Photo Group: Picture taking, instruction, darkroom, field trips, and photo services. Central YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, 1:30-5 p.m.

SATURDAYS

More A.A.: Lyric Hotel, 140 Jones St., 5 p.m. **Free.**

Ballroom Dancing: With Ray Bell and his band. Refreshments served. Golden Gate Park Senior Center, 6101 Fulton St., 2-4 p.m. Call 558-4268 for more information. Donation \$1.00.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Tuesday, November 3rd, 10th:

Flu Shot Clinics: Health Center #4, 1490 Mason St. 8:30-11 a.m. \$1.00 or **free** if unable to pay.

Wednesday, November 4th:

Workshop for Women: Natural Family Planning and Fertility Awareness. Three-session course. Nov. 4th, 18th, Dec. 2nd. Planned Parenthood, 815 Eddy St., Suite 200. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$35.00.

Thursday, November 5th:

Showcase Performances: By Bay Area Youth Opera's premiere ensemble. Guest artists. Classical guitarist Douglas Hensely will be presented at 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Calvary Presbyterian Church, 2515 Fillmore St. **Free.**

Film Series: Celebrating San Francisco Independent Filmmakers. Nov. 5th, 12th, and 19th. "China: Land of My Father" by Felicia Lowe, "Hearts and Hands" by Pat Ferrero, "The Life and Times of Harvey Milk" by Rob Epstein. Noon. Main Library, Lurie Room. Filmmakers will be present.

Film: Film by Mary Liz Thompson, "Feel Their Pain," made in Nicaragua. 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis, 8 p.m.

Friday, November 6th:

Live Music: Sonboner: Mexican Jazz Trio. 509 Cultural Club. 509 Ellis. 8 p.m.

Saturday, November 7th:

Live Performance: Mudwimmin. 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis St., 8 p.m.

The Art of Work



Photo: Lance Woodruff

Paintings by Vickie and Al Hamlin in the Local 2 Exhibit featured people at work.

by J. Malcolm Garcia

Work—its impact on our lives and the changing face of what we think of as "women's work"—is the subject of a strong pair of exhibits, one of paintings, the other of photographs, at the offices of Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bar-tenders Union, Local 2.

Kathy Cade's part of the show, entitled "Women Working," consists of photographs of women wearing tool belts and muddy rubber boots to work as mechanics, carpenters, and brick-layers.

"I started out to photograph women in non-traditional jobs," said Cade. "But I soon realized there were very few photographs of women in any jobs. This showing illustrates the diversity of work that women do."

She succeeds in erasing the traditional distinction between so-called "men's work" and "women's work" in her pair of photographs entitled "The Carpenter...The Cook." The first shows a woman dressed in over-

alls, plaid shirt and hard hat, doing carpentry, while the second shows the same woman, still dressed in carpenter's work clothes, serving up a plate of donuts. Seeing the same woman in two different roles challenges our definitions of what women and men should do as work.

Painters Vickie Hamlin and her father Marston "Al" Hamlin share the belief that work and working people are worthy subjects for artists. In their part of this exhibition, entitled "Carry It On," they use artistic imagery very effectively to convey the tremendous impact of work on people's lives. This is particularly evident in the painting entitled "Funeral," in which a couple hugs each other tightly in the background, while in the foreground, men and women obviously grieving trudge toward a large, gray machine that dwarfs them all.

This is an exhibit well worth seeing. It runs through the end of November at the Local 2 offices at 209 Golden Gate Avenue.

Brooks Reveals Poetic Roots

by Barry Maxwell

To see fall down, the Column of Gold,
Into the commonest ash.

Gwendolyn Brooks, an accomplished black woman poet from Chicago, read from her work on October 19 at the Press Club on Post Street. As part of the ongoing series organized by Philip Hackett, the Pulitzer Prize-winning writer spoke and chanted and sang her lines, and even answered some odd questions afterwards.

Her replies were often far clearer and more generous than the questions, and we learned that she wants the poetry she writes in her next ten years—she is 70!—to meet her standards and yet be "accessible." I think that means she wants to mean something both to poets and to people who are in no way "poetic."

Throughout the evening, Gwendolyn Brooks's roots in Chicago's South Side, where she has lived for many years,

were there for the audience to trip over. She said that she expected to be greeted by an audience of poets, in blue jeans and without ties, and here she was confronted with "all of you in your nice little suits and well-chosen shirts." When someone said that San Francisco was supposed to be the poetry capital of the country, she said softly that she wasn't sure about that, after all, there is Detroit ... Chicago ...

Do the heretics you have known look like elderly schoolteachers? Brooks does. Have the poets you have known ever cleaned house for white folks? Brooks did. And Gwendolyn Brooks writes fine poetry. If she can have those ten more years, she'll tell us more that is worth hearing, from South Side Chicago, all the way to the Press Club in the City of Nice Little Suits.

Marcus Books at Fillmore and Post carries several publications by Brooks, including "The Bean Eaters," "Annie Allen," "Selected Poems," and "Bronze Ville Boys and Girls."

Shamanic Performance a Noble Effort

by Max Reif

I was disappointed by "Toltec In Decoland," three shamanic performances with poetry and music, which played at the Hatley Martin Gallery last month. I found White Cloud Hawk Xochipillilama, author and performer in what was for all practical purposes a one-man show, to be talented, lovable, and sincere. But in terms of awakening my spirituality, which I believe was the intent of the theatrical piece, or even of moving my heart the way a Tennessee Williams or an O'Neill play might, the effort simply did not succeed.

Toltec shamanism has captured the imaginations of millions of people via the character Don Juan in Carlos Castaneda's books. The idea of theater as sacred, and as capable of transforming the consciousness of its viewers is a worthy one and one that I believe (and hope) is the intent of all serious playwrights. In this sense all worthwhile theater could be said to be shamanic.

My difficulty with White Cloud's presentation was that his flowing three-part piece, depicting many characters, male and female, never became something I could really care about. It was heavy on burlesque, a feature the program notes said has long been present in Native American drama. The purpose of the burlesque elements, the notes said, is to prevent us from taking



ourselves or our spiritual quests too seriously.

I think the purpose is admirable, but "Toltec In Decoland" just seemed too glib to me. More than that, it seemed that White Cloud was not just a one-man show—he was lonely. I felt that in many ways he was like a little boy showing off. I felt that he would be happier if he were really able to work with other actors and actresses harmoniously, instead of doing all the characters himself.

I say this with regret. Does any reviewer like to write negative reviews?

I felt White Cloud's voice to be quite strong sometimes in the chanting he did, and I found him to have no lack of energy. Indeed, it must have taken tremendous energy to be so active for an hour and a half, with so many virtually instantaneous character changes.

But all the references to reincarnation and other spiritual or quasi-spiritual concepts did not for me constitute spirituality. I felt White Cloud to be a victim of some of the "Decoland" forces which he tries to disarm through savage irony in his play.

Wednesday, November 11th:

Film About Women: "Acting Our Age." The Palace of Fine Arts. 7:30 p.m. For more information about tickets, childcare, transportation call 431-1180. Tickets \$8-15 sliding scale.

Slide Presentation and Lecture: "Another Side of Japan: From the Sublime To the Ridiculous." Art, politics and religion of Japan. Phoenix Gallery, 301 8th St., Suite #201 A. Tickets \$3.00.

Thursday, November 12th:

Folk Music: Gail Frater. Main Library, Lurie Room. 7 p.m.

Lecture/Discussion: Kozmick Layde: Planetary Who Dunit. 509 Cultural Club. 509 Ellis. 8 p.m.

Friday, November 13th:

Live Music: Ear Nerve: Non-Structured Electro-Audio. 509 Cultural Club. 509 Ellis. 8 p.m.

Saturday, November 14th:

Flu Shots: Last opportunity to get flu shots. 101 Grove St. 8:30-11 a.m. \$1.00 or Free if unable to pay.

Live Performance: Thin Ice Blues Band. 509 Cultural Center. 509 Ellis. 8 p.m.

Training: Tenants' rights counselor training. Old St. Mary's Housing Committee, 660 California St. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Bring a bag lunch, refreshments provided. Free.

Sunday, November 15th:

Live music: Constellations: Experimental Music. 509 Cultural Center. 509 Ellis. 8 p.m.

Monday, November 16th:

News Event: Indian leaders of South and Central America speak out. Co-sponsored by Guatemala News and Information Bureau, International Indian Treaty Council and South and Central American Indian Information Center. New College Auditorium, 777 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. For more information call 835-0810.

Tuesday, November 17th:

Career Day: Careers in Health Care. For high school students interested or potentially interested in a health care career. Sponsored by UC Medical Center. 513 Par-

nassus, Health Sciences West Bldg. Room 300. 4-7 p.m. Free. Call for reservations 476-1848.

Friday, November 20th:

Live Music: The Welfare Cheats. Political, social satire. 509 Cultural Club. 509 Ellis. 8 p.m.

Saturday, November 21st:

Live Music: Squeeze Hogs: Rockabilly. 509 Cultural Center. 509 Ellis St. 8 p.m.

Tuesday, November 24th:

Live Music: Paul and Laura Nomi: Music for the People. 509 Cultural Center. 509 Ellis St. 8 p.m.

Friday, November 27th:

Live Music: Traditional Cambodian and Western Rock. 509 Cultural Center. 509 Ellis. 8 p.m.

Sunday, November 29th:

Live Music: Constellations: Experimental music. 509 Cultural Center. 509 Ellis. 8 p.m.

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City Plan for Homeless

continued from page 1

munity members and the Mayor's Homeless Planning Council did not have any input. While most applauded the effort to get out of the beleaguered hotel system, they questioned whether shelters would be an improvement.

Calling the current hotel system "institutionalized flophouses," Jean Mariani, administrative assistant to Board of Supervisors President Nancy Walker, criticized the proposal for simply "switching the type of warehouse."

"Using shelters as hotel rooms without walls is not an answer," said Mariani. "Shelters are okay as long as the intent of the shelter is short-term. But there needs to be enough money for social services so that people don't stay there long-term, and so we don't start to assume it's the latest form of housing."

Others are even more critical of moving the homeless out of hotel rooms. "It's going to take away any sort of independence you have, to be able to leave when you want and look for work," said hotline hotel resident Jeffrey Mason. "As bad as they are, hotels are better than shelters. You don't have people yelling and screaming at you when you go to bed (as is the case in the shelters)."

La Plante envisions several tiers of shelter and services to be provided to the homeless under the new plan—emergency, transitional, and support service hotels, plus a permanent housing component.

Homeless advocate Greg Francis said: "There's no low-income housing to move people from the tiers into. It will simply be a way to get homeless people out of sight."

La Plante was vague as to how the homeless will move from shelters to affordable housing. "We want to expand that (permanent housing) to the extent that we get federal funding," he said.

Most homeless people will stay in either "basic" or "full-service" shelters. Overnight stays on a first-come, first-served basis will be provided at the "basic" shelters, which would have no eligibility requirements and would be open to anyone. Clients will be encouraged to get onto public assistance and move on to the "full-service" shelters, which would provide more social services.

Anyone already getting public benefits will be sent to the "full-service" shelters, where they can stay for longer than overnight, once they have agreed to have part of their grant deducted to pay for the shelter.

The money recouped from clients who pay will fund the costs of social work services in the shelters. Unless

the city charges for shelter, La Plante added, "There's no way we can afford the full-service shelters."

He said the new system might not be less costly than the current one, but that "we will get more out of our buck."

Currently, he said, the city is paying \$9.50 to \$10 a night to house people in hotels. For \$11 to \$13 they hope to house people in shelters, and provide support services as well.

Shelter providers interviewed by the Times questioned whether there will be adequate funding for support services in the shelters.

Harry DeRuyter of the Salvation Army shelter said that all the city-financed shelters are currently underfunded and running at a deficit. "We need to negotiate for more money now," he said. If the city is to pay its current bills, there would be no money left for social services, according to DeRuyter. He doubts the new plan will save any money.

"They're trying to cap expenses on the entire program and increase the (social) services at the same time," he said. "How in the hell they're going to do that is a mystery to me."

Rev. Buzz Nern, director of Episcopal Sanctuary shelter, said, "It would be wonderful for the city to get out of the hotels," but questioned the idea of charging the homeless to stay in group shelters. "I don't think it will work," said Nern. "The G.A. check is not that much money. To deduct from that check—I don't know how people would subsist."

Although the city has not decided how much the fee will be, La Plante said, "If someone's on an entitlement, I have no philosophical problems with having them contribute something to their room and board."

No Exit

Advocates question whether the program will help people get out of the cycle of homelessness or merely warehouse them.

"They're creating a very big rug we can sweep 3,000 people under," said Malcolm Garcia of the Tenderloin Self Help Center. "It's obvious there will be no help getting people back into the mainstream."

Leroy Looer of the Cadillac Hotel agrees that without a way to get people into affordable housing, the system will be a dead end for homeless people. "Nobody's talking about an exit from the situation," he said. "If there's no exit, everyone's going to opt to stay in the basic shelter and pay nothing."

As the winter rains begin and the city holds press conferences to announce \$10,000 "bum-free" bus shelters financed by Gannett Corporation, the fate of San Francisco's homeless population remains in political limbo.



Photo: Andrew Ritchie

Many homeless San Franciscans still live in boxes and on benches, as these men did in 1984. Others live in hotels like the Jefferson, which was hit by a three-alarm fire last month and is perennially plagued by crime.



Photo: Lance Woodruff



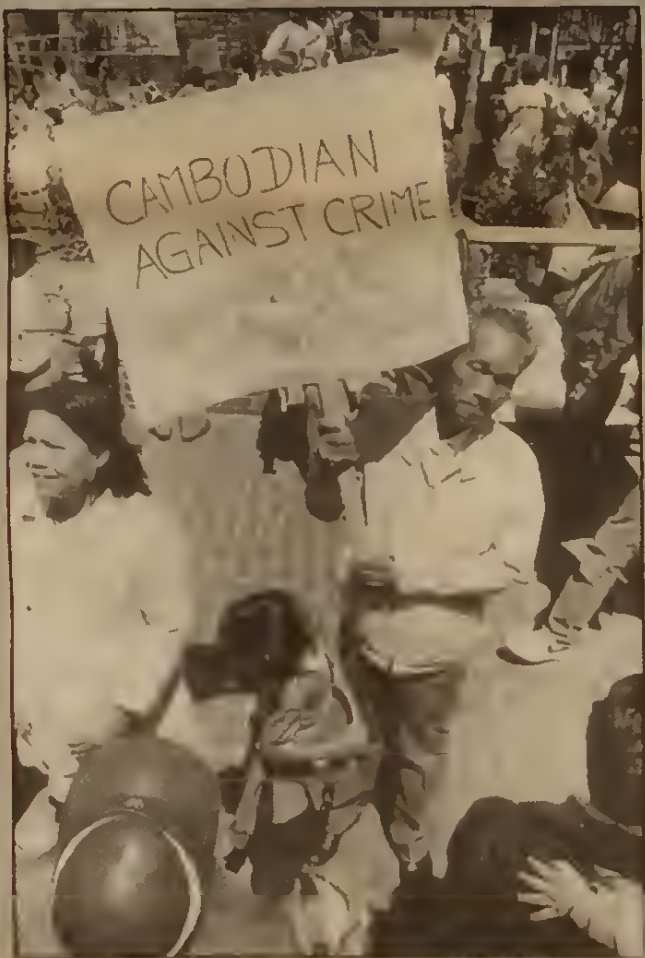
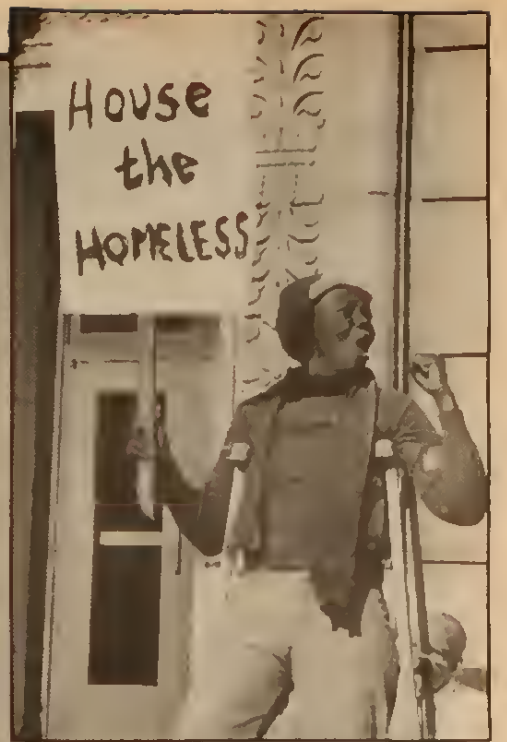
**Re-Elect
District
Attorney
Arlo Smith**



Photo: Lance Woodruff

Clery and homeless advocates gathered last month in the courtyard of St. Boniface Church to mark the coming of winter and urge the city to do more for the homeless. "The powerful only give justice when we persist in demanding it," said Rev. Glenda Hope, who led an ecumenical prayer service.

Ten Years of the Tenderloin Times



Photos by Andrew Ritchie



Ten Years of the Tenderloin Times

editor's note

This issue marks the tenth anniversary of the Tenderloin Times. From its roots in the Drop-In Center at Central City Hospitality House in 1977, the paper has covered the struggles of the Tenderloin and mirrored its changes. The following three pieces, each written by a former editor of the Times, comment on the neighborhood at different periods during the paper's first decade.

Peter McCarthy, director of Hospitality House's Drop-In Center in the late 70s, was the first editor of the paper. His piece, reprinted here, first appeared in August 1977 in the mimeographed sheet—complete with handwritten headlines—that was Volume 1, number 1. Even in those days the Times tried to involve the community and draw greater public attention to the special needs and unique culture of the Tenderloin.

Ron Silliman, poet, activist and ethnographer, edited the paper from 1979-82, when it began to appear every two months in tabloid form. I met Ron

in 1980 when I was a new staff organizer at the North of Market Planning Coalition and he gave me a tour of the Tenderloin. He had recently worked on a study of the sociological and demographic patterns of the neighborhood for a Hospitality House project, the Tenderloin Ethnographic Research Project. It was evident he knew the neighborhood well, as he showed me the human "meat rack" at the "golden triangle" at Turk and Market Streets and pointed out the dividing line on Leavenworth Street between the Tenderloin's two police districts, one of which was more lenient, which explained why there was more street activity on one side of the street.

Under Ron's editorship, the paper covered the birth of strong community organizations and the first influx of refugees from Southeast Asia.

Rob Waters, who took over in 1982, guided the paper through most of the 80s. He boosted circulation from 5,000 to 12,000, had the paper professionally typeset and cranked out copy on a monthly basis. Wade Hudson and I joined Rob as editors in 1984 and 1985, respectively, and the circulation jumped

to 15,000. In the spring of 1985, with a grant from the San Francisco Foundation, we began to produce the Times in four languages, responding to the needs of the neighborhood's newest arrivals from Southeast Asia.

In addition to the core staff of the paper, the people who have really kept the Times going all these years are those community residents who have contributed as volunteers—people like Vandy Sivongsay, who crafts beautiful Lao calligraphy for the paper; Dennis Conkin, who's first to call with a hot scoop; Antonia Manor resident Richard McGhee, who's an avid letter writer; and Mitzi Waltz, Keith Grier, Preston Brady III, Josh Brandon, Pete Childress and Ron Holladay, all of whom contribute regular columns or articles.

Then there are the people whose contributions are harder to detect—those without the bylines—Jennifer Newton and Larry Robinett, who help out in the office and deliver copy to the typesetter; Craig Johnson and Hung Quoc Tran, who proofread the Times on their days off; Barry Maxwell, who chauffeurs bundles of newly printed

Times from the printer to our office on distribution day; Jorge Enciso, who uses a shopping cart to distribute the paper in the neighborhood; the seniors at Sunset Parkside Activities Center, who mail the paper out to our subscribers; Mitzi Waltz, who's computerizing our subscriber list when she's not taking care of her daughter; Raul Ramirez, who gives free journalism workshops for our writers; Walter Park, who lets us use Independent Housing's drafting tables for layout... As well as the many others who've helped the Times in the past, including Scott Serdahely, Michael Wood, Gayle Shields, David Nowakowski, Andy Maxwell, Donna Matthews, Amy Alexander, Alison Shepard, Jeannie Look, Sepideh Ghadishah, Frank Zwirlein, Liem Nguyen, Michael Mintz, Andy Andrews, and Andrew Ritchie... the list goes on and on.

So, as we enter our second decade, we salute our readers and contributors from the neighborhood, as well as our supporters from outside, who have enriched the paper, not only enabling it to survive, but helping it to grow.

—Sara Colm

Communication at Last

by Peter McCarthy
Editor, 1977

reprinted from Vol. 1 number 1

What started as an activity for the clients of the Drop-In Center of Central City Hospitality House has developed wonderously into a community project. A bonanza of talent was discovered in people sitting around playing cards or some such game. It started with three people standing on the corner of Leavenworth and Turk, trying to decide what they could do in the Tenderloin. One person said, "If only there was a list of things to do." The next person replied, "Let's research a schedule of events and publish a flier." The last person in his profound wisdom lit up and said, "Let's start a newspaper."

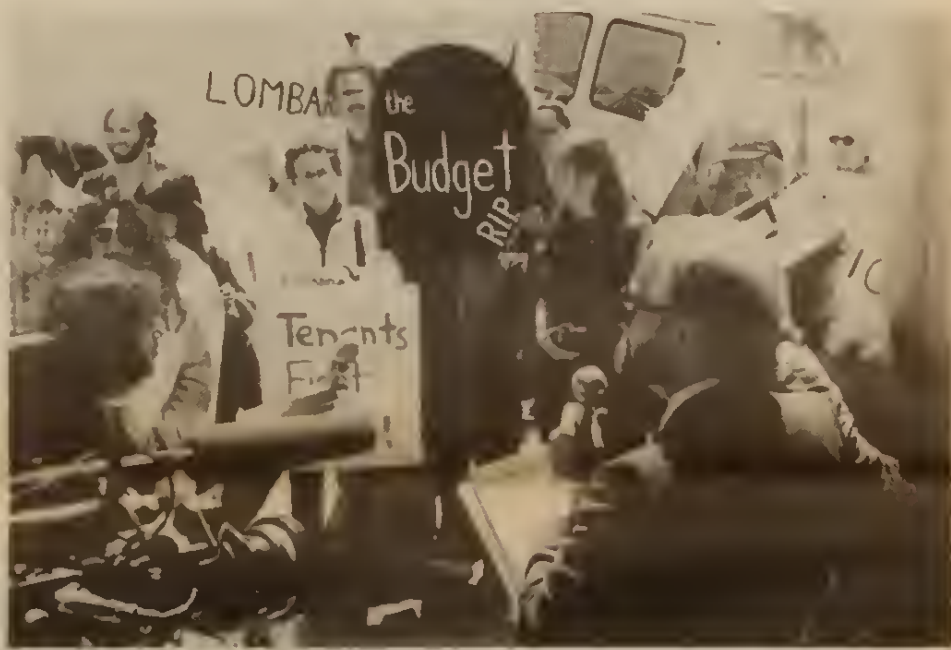
It was the thinking of this third person that instigated the creation of this newspaper. The project was so full of good energy that the three multiplied to nine. Within two days we had an

office, (Drop-In Center of CCHH), a mimeograph machine, four typewriters, and a gold mine in talent to work with. And with the first issue, we have you.

Now, we have a newspaper, growing like a budding flower in the sidewalk cracks. People come along and stomp on it. Others try to uproot it, to put it where they think it'll best survive. And then there are existing structures surrounding it, shrouding out its life support systems.

But listen, the people who put this paper together are not going to let their energies go for naught. The community this journal serves, won't let its paper fade into oblivion. It will be their weapon against odds that overwhelm them, their tool to cut through the red tape of bureaucracy and finally bring attention to our environment, the area the city overlooks and takes for granted so often. With your help, this paper will be a viable force for the Tenderloin community.

Times Past, Present, Future



Three generations of Times' editors at a 1981 rally against residential hotel conversions at the Bureau of Building Inspection. Ron Silliman (far right) was editor of the Times, Sara Colm (center right) was a community organizer for the North of Market Planning Coalition, and Rob Waters (far left) was covering the event for KPFA radio.

The Tenderloin Finds A Voice

by Ron Silliman
Editor, 1979-82

You don't need to be a psychologist to know that an individual with no self-image, or a strictly negative one, is in trouble. The same goes for neighborhoods. When I worked on the Tenderloin Ethnographic Research Project for Hospitality House in 1977-78, researching demographics, services and community attitudes in the neighborhood, the five members of our team were struck by how confused the Tenderloin's sense of identity seemed.

We would ask residents what they thought of the neighborhood and got responses like "sleazy," "low-life," "ghetto," "ought to be torn down" and worse. But asked about specifics—the people, the stores, the sense of community, the location, the availability of resources, the ambience, the night life—the very same folks would answer with warm anecdotes of friendship, rich cultural diversity, bargains, and resources galore. They made us see that residential hotels offered a unique way of life, and that hotel lobbies could be places where neighborhood culture was nourished.

But they had no way of putting their positive feelings together, no medium for expressing real community pride. They also lacked a means of communicating information and involving their neighbors in important issues.

The reasons for this were not hard

to figure out. Since the 1890s, the city's "major" media had portrayed the Tenderloin as the Sin Center of the West. More than a few politicians and preachers had exploited this, promising to "clean up" the blocks between Post and Market, Van Ness and Powell. The real life of neighborhood residents was all but invisible to these outsiders.

Clearly the Tenderloin needed a voice and an attempt was already being made to give it one. Peter McCarthy and Ray Cornelius, the directors of Hospitality House's Drop-In Center, had put out three small issues of a mimeographed newsletter called *The Tenderloin Times*. Circulation was only 150 copies per issue. After a dispute with the agency's board over the printing of a Christmas recipe for tea at Christmas, McCarthy and Cornelius gave way to a drifting journalist named Tom Hibbard. He converted the *Times* to a tabloid format, put out one issue and then left town.

Knowing how important this fledgling paper could be to the neighborhood, neither Hospitality House Director Claudia Viek nor I felt we could let it die. After the ethnographic project was completed, Claudia pulled a few dollars from a vacant secretarial slot in the agency budget, and I took over as editor in late 1978. The next few issues focused on the presence of children in the neighborhood (a reality Mayor Feinstein virtually denied back then), the need for affordable housing, and the work toward a park at Jones

and Eddy being done by another new neighborhood group, the North of Market Planning Coalition.

Very quickly Tenderloin residents and local agency staffers began to write for the paper. An early feature was *The Green Brick Box*, a novel of life in a section 8 senior "manor" by Mary Tall Mountain, one of the finest Native American authors in the country. The novel ran in the paper as a serial for a year. Mary, who was a member of the Tenderloin Writers Workshop, is only one example of the neighborhood's greatest resource—its people. The workshop played an important role for the paper, providing writers, volunteers for both distribution and ad sales, and its own regular feature of poetry, some of which could tell you much more about the TL than a "hard news story."

But hard news was also present in abundance, so much so that the Times has probably printed more of it than any other free neighborhood newspaper in the country over the past ten years. Once the Hilton and Ramada hotel chains announced their plans for neighborhood development in 1980 and some of the less responsible small hotel owners began to convert their buildings to tourist use, issues for the Tenderloin started moving so rapidly that I spent the next three years just trying to keep up.

I was fortunate to have lots of help. Claudia Viek put enormous energy and commitment into the paper, and often saved its editor from the wrath of the agency's cautious board. In the

late 70s Heidi Garfield, a journalism student from SF State, became a valuable reporter and Scott Davis and Michael Mosher provided graphics. The Planning Coalition gave the *Times* free office space for over a year and helped me to find Bill Johnson, a reporter through the Vista volunteer program. Planning Coalition staffers Sara Colm and Diana Bilovsky served as ears on the neighborhood and regularly contributed stories. The Vanguard and Limantour foundations came through with the paper's first grants for production costs.

In 1979, the *Examiner's* Dwight Chapin gave the *Times* its first broader media exposure. Annette Doornbos of Media Alliance put me in touch with reporters and editors from the other neighborhood papers in the city. I remember one in particular who struck me as sharing my vision of journalism—Rob Waters. I made a note of his name to give to Claudia Viek, just in case I ever wanted to leave the *Times*.

That day did come in August, 1981, brought on by long hours, low pay, and offers from SF State and UC San Diego. The paper I left had grown to a circulation of 7,000, but it was still set on a typewriter, bimonthly and monolingual, a primitive forerunner of the *Times* today. But it had made the transition from its tentative beginnings to a neighborhood institution. The Tenderloin had found its voice.

Ron Silliman is now the executive editor of *Socialist Review*, and the author of 16 books of poetry and criticism.

Looking Back on a Decade of Change

by Rob Waters
Editor 1982-1987

A couple of months ago, the second annual Tenderloin Arts Festival closed down a block of Leavenworth Street for an afternoon, and artists, pink- and green-faced kids and Laotian rock bands took over. The event reminded me what I love about the Tenderloin and how much the neighborhood had changed in just a few years.

The kids painted their faces, the street, and everything in sight, scampering in and out of rows of paintings, etchings and bright ceramics created by Tenderloin artists. The Tenderloin Lao Band rocked the street while a crowd of dancers—including Crown Prince Arcadia, a six-foot, mini-skirted transvestite and a black woman in dreadlocks—got down. Tenderloin resident Carlos Martinez showed off his mural of 20th century black leaders, and Mien women from Laos, babies strapped to their backs, displayed their intricate embroidery work.

Ten years ago, you would not have found such a scene in the Tenderloin. Today, you could find it nowhere else.

When I started working at the Times six years ago, the neighborhood's image was still crude and simple: smut, vice and crime. "Hell at your Doorstep," the Examiner dubbed it in 1977. "A sleazy district that is... a disgrace to the city," is what one supervisor called it in 1982. A "cesspool" is how more than one columnist condemned it.

Today, the Tenderloin is alive, one of the most colorful and dynamic neighborhoods in the city. It has been invigorated by the arrival of thousands of refugees from war-torn Southeast Asia who are sinking down roots and creating their own institutions; softened by the noisy, joyous presence of thousands of children; and strengthened by the building of community organizations and the politicizing of its populace.

Ten years ago, most developers and civic leaders hoped the Tenderloin would go the way of the Western Addition and South of Market, bulldozed to make way for higher and better uses, gentrified, condominium-ized, or high-rised. Their plan was for redevelopment imposed from outside.

What has happened instead is that a neighborhood has come together and charted its own course, haltingly, sometimes erratically, a step here, a step there, sometimes going backward before it could go forward. The Tenderloin has redeveloped itself from the inside out.

In the summer of 1980, three national hotel chains announced they would each develop new luxury high-rise hotels in the neighborhood. The newly-formed North of Market Planning Coalition sprang into action, and Tenderloin residents hit the streets in protest. They packed City Hall hearing rooms and cheered as Jean Mellor denounced the developers in her rich Scottish brogue; they booed as a hotel lawyer discoursed on requirements of the planning code. They didn't stop the projects, but they created enough pressure to wrest from the developers concessions that set national precedents: the city required the developers to pay millions of dollars for housing and community services to compensate for the hotel's impact on the Tenderloin.

To keep such projects from ever happening again in the future, the Coalition drew up their own zoning plan for the neighborhood—calling for reduced building heights and limiting commercial uses—and convinced the city to implement most of it. They wrote their own law to prevent landlords from converting cheap residential hotels into tourist lodging and got the city to enact it.

Looking back at the last six years, I see tremendous changes in the neighborhood and a sense of community that scarcely existed before. But des-

pite the gains and the new attitude and spirit in the Tenderloin, massive problems still cry out for attention and an end to city neglect.

Today, five years after the city discovered the homeless problem and pledged to provide shelter for all who sought it, thousands of people still sleep outside on the city's cold, mean streets. For the last two years, the Tenderloin Times has researched the number of homeless people who have died on the streets. In 1985, we learned, at least 16 people died; last year, it was up to 54. I fear what this year's numbers will tell.

In 1983, again in 1985, and again in 1986, we did stories on the horrendous conditions in the hotels where homeless families are placed by the city. Our stories got some notice; promises of coming improvements were made. And nothing changed. In October, 1986, the San Francisco Chronicle did a three-part, front-page series on the homeless program and the poor conditions of the hotels. The homeless program went into an uproar. The mayor scrambled to appoint a new "Homeless Planning Council" and pledged that it would have, as its "top priority," improving the situation for homeless families.

One year later, the city has succeeded in moving more than 100 families into public housing, but hundreds more still live in the same crime-ridden, fire-trap hotels.

Long-range housing for the homeless—as opposed to cots-in-a-basement shelters and tiny hotel rooms—is not even on the agenda. Meanwhile, six

Tenderloin residential hotels, with a total of 444 rooms, stand vacant, their windows broken or boarded up.

The fact that Tenderloin tykes do much of their romping on neighborhood streets adds a warmth and a softness to its once-hard edges, but it also points to a critical problem: an overwhelming lack of child care. The Bay Area Women's Resource Center estimates that some 5,000 children live in the neighborhood, 1,800 of whom are

still clog the jails, the detox facility that was overcrowded then is still overcrowded, and open public toilets are as hard to find as people who aren't running for mayor. And homeless alcoholics still die alone on the streets.

Drug addiction is just as rampant. But the only treatment program in the neighborhood is a controversial methadone clinic which has been the subject of government audits and media exposes (starting with the Times). Metha-

Rev. Don Seaton, 1971: "The Tenderloin is not a community and never will be."

pre-school aged. For this number, there are fewer than 200 subsidized child-care openings and space for about 250 kids in after-school programs. The result: many kids remain cooped up in tiny apartments and use hallways, alleyways, fire escapes and streets as their playgrounds.

Alcoholism is still rampant in the Tenderloin. Six years ago, Mayor Feinstein set up one of her famous task forces, a "Blue Ribbon Committee on Public Inebriates." It called for diversion of alcoholics from the criminal justice system into public health facilities, the opening of 40 new beds in detoxification facilities, sober residences for recovering alcoholics, and accessible public toilets. The mayor politely received their report... and promptly shelved it. Two sober hotels have opened, but six years later, alcoholics

done is used exclusively for heroin addicts; meanwhile, all the statistics—overdoses, hospital admissions, deaths—show that cocaine and stimulant use is the fastest growing problem. All of San Francisco has just one publicly-funded non-heroin drug treatment program. In the Tenderloin, there is none.

There are other problems, too. Thousands of people are trying to live on General Assistance grants of about \$300 a month, about the cost of the average hotel room in the Tenderloin. There is widespread unemployment but little attention paid to job development. Crime still plagues many in the Tenderloin, and the fear of crime still haunts many senior citizens. And the list goes on.

Here, off the top of my head, are five priority areas a new mayor should devote attention to in the Tenderloin:

1. Rehabilitate the six vacant Tenderloin residential hotels, starting with the Hyland Hotel at the corner of Turk and Taylor. Fixing up this building and getting rid of Frenchy's Book Store would dramatically improve a corner that has long been one of the most run-down and sleazy in the neighborhood. Use non-profit housing developers to develop tenant cooperatives on the model of the Aarti Hotel.

2. Open a desperately needed new playground in the Tenderloin to ease the overload on Boeddeker Park, which opened two years ago and is already the most densely-used park in the city.

3. Open additional subsidized child care facilities in the neighborhood to ease the tremendous shortage that now exists. This will be particularly important as the new GAIN program, requiring welfare mothers to work, goes into effect.

4. Revamp the homeless program and begin working with non-profit housing operators—instead of slumlords—to house the homeless. If necessary, exercise the power of eminent domain to gain control of some of the worst hotels, then transfer title to non-profit groups.

5. Push hard to get the owners of the new luxury hotels to hire neighborhood residents as they promised. Few jobs have actually been provided and the city has done little to push the hotels. The city should take an aggressive stance. Perhaps a training program, operated jointly by the hotels and neighborhood agencies, could be set up to ensure that neighborhood people are able to get these and other jobs.

When the Rev. Don Seaton left his post in 1971 as director of Hospitality House, he made some observations about the Tenderloin. "The Tenderloin has no social structure of its own," he said. "It is not a community and never will be. It's impossible to organize the Tenderloin."

Today, nothing could be further from the truth. Sixteen years later, his former organization and others are proving his gloomy predictions wrong. In San Francisco's "cesspool," people who were thought of as inhuman or uncaring showed the city how to care; an area that was thought of as impossible to organize politically got organized.

Happy Birthday, Tenderloin Times and Thanks for Ten Great Years of Quality Journalism

Hon. Art Agnos
Hon. Sue Bierman
Hon. Harry Britt
Hon. Jim Gonzales
Hon. Richard Hongisto
Hon. Tom Hsieh
Hon. Willie Kennedy
Hon. Bill Maher
Hon. Wendy Nelder
Hon. Nancy Walker
Hon. Doris Ward
Hon. Michael Hennessey
Walter Park
Randy Shaw
David Jensen
Seamus Kilty
Rene Cazenave
John Elberling
Yori Wada
David Prowler
Gene Coleman
Mark Aaronson
Terence Hallinan
Leroy Looper
Lucinda Mehran

Maureen Martin
Sandy Gartzman
Poul E. Andersen
Scott and Glenda Hope
Elizabeth Neufeld, M.D.
Paul Wartelle
Tim Brosnan
Win Cottrell
Claire Roberts
Melissa Daar
Lois Salisbury
Bay Area Women's Resource
Center
Mental Health Association of SF
Vietnamese Youth
Development Center
Tenderloin Reflection Center
San Francisco Consumer Action
Albatross Books
Hatley Martin Gallery
Gray Panthers
Traveler's Aid Society
Income Rights Project
Tenderloin Neighborhood
Development Corp.

Public Is Boss

"Times" Stands Tough On News Coverage to Reader

It will be the policy of this newspaper to serve the Tenderloin community by publishing news that directly affects the residents of this area, bounded by: Market, Hyde, Post and Powell. At the same time we will endeavor to get into print any news of social and recreational value. We will, however, hold in mind that our intention as a journal is to help enrich the lives of our readers through the process of making known the medical, financial, housing and job-seeking services available to Tenderloin residents.

To accomplish this high purpose we feel that we are an autonomous entity, although funding and material support is supplied by Central City Hospitality House. Problems encountered by rushing the first issue into print do not overshadow our need to actively solicit the approval of the public. Our newspaper lives or dies on this balancing point. We need you. And if this is not recognized by the newspaper and its readers then we cannot survive.

Praise must go to the Tenderloin staff for giving of their time and effort in publishing the first issue. Special thanks go to Peter McCarthy, Director Drop-In Center, for his unflinching good humor, charm, camaraderie and ingenuity which are responsible for the creation of the Tenderloin Times. We also thank Josee Lee Kuhlman, Executive Director Central City Hospitality House. Without her responsive, sympathetic ear this newspaper would not at all be possible.

TENDERLOIN TIMES A HOSPITALITY HOUSE PROJECT VOL 1 NO 1 AUG 23 1977 776-2103 Carter Says Scrap Welfare System. In a proposal with the... welfare system and... welfare system...

THE TENDERLOIN TIMES November, 1982 Volume 6, number 10 10,000 Homeless Called 'Shame of City' Methadone Clinics Accused of Misconduct by Dennis Conkin and Rob Waters

TENDERLOIN TIMES Volume 2, Number 2 December 1978 A publication of Central City Hospitality House

COALITION DEMANDS CITY ACT ON VACANT HOUSING



More than 50 persons, including Supervisor Robert Conzelmann and reporters from the San Francisco Examiner and two local television stations, huddled on the sunny, but brisk, corner of Leavenworth and Ellis on the morning of November 16th, in order to participate in a press conference and walking tour of a few of the Tenderloin's vacant and abandoned hotels and apartments.

TIMES June, 1983 Volume 3, Number 6

Battle Lines Drawn on Union Square West

We see this project as having an incredibly damaging impact on the future of this neighborhood. We are absolutely and unequivocally opposed to it. Brad Paul, director, North of Market Planning Coalition.



On one side are a slew of community organizations, already being harassed by tourists and office developments and anxious about the neighborhood's ability to survive as a low-income residential area. They strongly oppose the project and are prepared to file suit against it.

On the other side is Les Jacob of Theme Resorts, the Ramada Inn developer who has enlisted a high-powered legal team in San Francisco Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver and former Congressman John Burton to aid him in getting the project through the city bureaucracy.

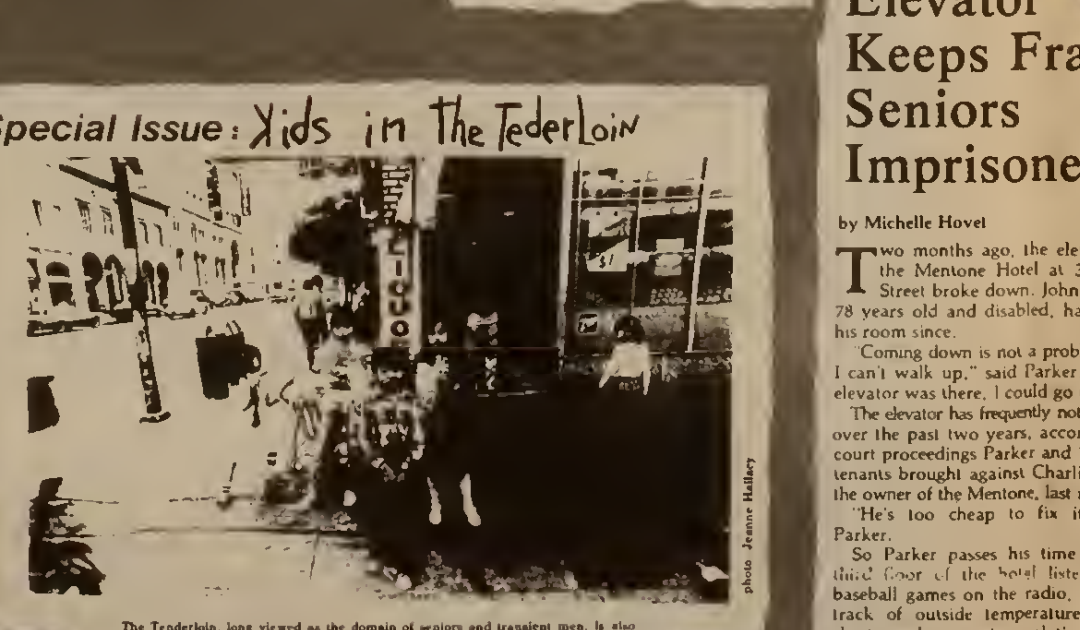
Residential hotel bill passes - Historic legislation will save many homes in City

In a nationally unprecedented move, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved by a 10 to zero vote permanent legislation controlling the conversion of residential hotels to any other use. This is positively "hooray news" for all Tenderloin residents, as these hotel units comprise half of neighborhood housing.

Luxury hotels to pay millions to TL

Tenderloin residents have good reason to be especially proud of their unique victory: not only are many of the city's residential hotels here, but, also, North of Market residents played a key role in the drafting and passage of the law.

Special Issue: Kids in the Tenderloin



The Tenderloin, long viewed as the domain of seniors and transient men, is also home to a growing number of children and families. In fact, the neighborhood has, by some estimates, more than quadrupled in last few years. In this special issue, the TENDERLOIN TIMES looks at kids in the Tenderloin—their problems, their pleasures, their activities and the services that are or are not available to them, the way the neighborhood and the City treats them.

10 YEARS... Homeless... Methadone Clinics... Critic of Me... Broken Elevator... Veterans... War No... For Viet... Veterans... Critic of Me... Broken Elevator... Keeps Fra... Seniors... Imprisoned...

THE TENDERLOIN TIMES

Volume 9, number 7 Voice of the Central City since 1977 August, 1985

TL's Shocking Pedestrian Death Rate

Six Die in Four Months

by Jim Sugarek

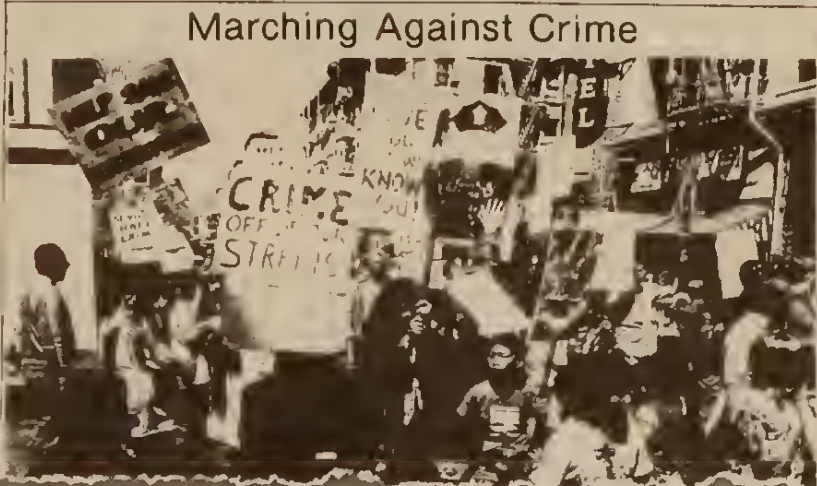
An alarming number of pedestrians have been killed or injured by moving vehicles in the Tenderloin recently, including a six-year old Laotian girl who was killed by a hit-and-run driver late last month.

During the three-and-a-half month period ending July 30, vehicles on Tenderloin streets killed six people and injured more than thirty others, according to a Times review of police records.

Neighborhood activists, concerned with the growing safety problem, charge that the City is treating the Tenderloin as a traffic thoroughfare, not a residential neighborhood.

"There's a price in human lives to having a major artery go through a

Marching Against Crime



Homeless Shunted to Slum Hotels

Rob Waters

Homeless people waiting in apply for welfare benefits and families in need of shelter are housed by the City in some of the worst buildings in town.

An inspection of recent building inspections reveals that most hotels the City has licensed have numerous outstanding code violations, including overcrowding, inadequate fire and smoke detection, fire escape, inadequate security and poor sanitation so common as to almost be the norm.

The Department of Social Services is housing over 800 people in hotel rooms, most of them in limited way rooms in hotels scattered throughout the city, mostly in the South of Market and North of Market areas.

People being housed are single men, women and children. Many have been issued two-week permits while they wait to be housed in permanent housing.

Some are families with no or little income. Welfare recipients who can not afford high apartment rents and wind up on the street. Their families have room rents deducted from their checks.

Department representatives say they are aware of some problems — and have attempted to correct them — and have been basically satisfied with the accommodations they are providing.

It's the pits, said Jim Thygeson of his room at the Kinney Hotel. There's no heat, they supply pets — like mice and roaches. There's never any hot water in the showers. The rooms are never cleaned.

There was no linen or blankets for many people, said Eileen Collins of the City Center Hotel, which is being used for homeless families. You don't even have a sink in the room. The tub not working. Some people have been waiting for months for sheets and pillow cases.

Inside a Hotel for Homeless Families

by Sara Colm

Fifty-two families with over 100 children live in the City Center Hotel on Eddy Street. In early June, after joining with other homeless families and individuals on a Homeless Cause march to the Department of Social Services and City Hall, tenants began to hold meetings in the City Center to talk about problems in the building.

They were moving people around from room to room or to another hotel every 28 days," says tenant Marvella Mundano. "It was really a hassle especially with all the

Methadone treatment centers and two programs of interest by the Attorney General's office, have recently tampered with client records and were treating 10 of the 12 people and were treating programs of city methadone programs as they died of drug-related diseases in the last 3 1/2 years.

Vietnam: Ten Years After

Refugees Struggle In New Land

April 30, 1975 marked the end of a long and painful chapter in American history. But the closing of the chapter does not end the book on the aftermath of the War in Southeast Asia. And the Tenderloin, with its large population of Southeast Asian refugees and Vietnam veterans, continues to feel the effects of that conflict more than perhaps any other neighborhood in the country. In this issue, the Times takes a look at both communities to see how they are faring.

Refugees Struggle In New Land

For these forgotten casualties of the war, and for thousands of other veterans living on the streets or hiding in the hills there is no memorial.

There's still a war going on, says Michael Anthony, a Vietnam veteran now working as a counselor in the Tenderloin. A war within ourselves and with our environment and there can be needless additional deaths depending on how we deal with this crisis.

To be sure, Vietnam veterans are not a monolithic group, the majority still in the mainstream of American life. And many, particularly in recent years, have joined with other vets and taken advantage of programs geared to helping them work through and cleanse their pain. But psychologists, social workers and veterans themselves say that for many veterans the wounds of the war have not yet healed.



Refugees at ramps in Ban Vinai on the Laos-Thai border can spend as many as four years or more waiting to be processed to a new country.

Photo: Sara Colm

A decade after hundreds of thousands of Southeast Asians were displaced from their homes by war, famine and political upheaval, many still struggling to adjust to a new life in a new country.

Problems are everywhere in the Tenderloin. In the past few years, the number of homeless people has increased. Many are veterans who served in the Vietnam War. They are struggling to find housing and work. The Tenderloin is a place of hardship and struggle for many of its residents.

Doctors Charge Misuse of Mental Health Funds

Thousands Risk Lives At Sea

Red Tape Stymies Vietnamese Immigration to America

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Red Tape Stymies Vietnamese Immigration to America

sea has cut down the number of boat departures. But the program is so slow, cumbersome and difficult for refugees to negotiate that more than half a million people are currently on the waiting list.

Critics charge that the lack of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and the U.S. has complicated the process, since the two countries do not talk directly to each other and must use the United Nations as an intermediary.

Of those who do not make it to the United States, a disproportionate number are elderly or sick. And many, depending on their immigration status, are ineligible to receive medical or public assistance until they have been here three years.

"The program has seemed to be the way for the Vietnamese to see out elderly and ethnic Chinese people while extorting money from them at the same time," says Vu-Di Vuong, director of the Center for Southeast Asian Refugee Resettlement (CSEARR).

"It was the young and the fit capable of escape by boat, they escaped first and are now trying to retrieve their elderly parents," says Laurie Reemysnyder of the International Committee for Migration (ICM), offering another factor in the

continued on page 12

ព័ត៌មានសង្គម សីហមខ្មែរ

CAMBODIAN COMMUNITY NEWS

ព្រឹត្តិការណ៍សង្គមស្រុកស្រែចម្រុះ

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Photo: Sara Colm

TIN TUC CỘNG ĐỒNG NGƯỜI VIỆT

VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY NEWS

February, 1987

Hai Cái Nhìn Về Phim "Platoon"

Từ Một Người Tị Nạn Việt

Nguyen Huu Liem

At the end of the war, the first wave of refugees began in 1975 with the exodus of the "boat people" from Vietnam. These were primarily ethnic Chinese who fled the anti-Chinese policies Vietnam imposed as its relationship with China soured. Thousands of people braved their way past officials and set off in flimsy crafts, making their lives on rough seas or at the hands of pirates before being picked up by ships or landing on the beaches of neighboring countries. Many did not make it, at least 30,000 are estimated to have lost their lives at sea.

Included in this "second wave" was a steady trickle of refugees out of Laos.



Một Cảnh Trong Phim Platoon A scene from Platoon

Từ Một Cựu Chiến Binh Mỹ

Pete Childress

The movie "Platoon" is a powerful and moving portrayal of the Vietnam War. It shows the lives of soldiers in a platoon and the impact of the war on them. The movie is a must-see for anyone who wants to understand the Vietnam War.

Thousands Risk Lives At Sea

Red Tape Stymies Vietnamese Immigration to America

sea has cut down the number of boat departures. But the program is so slow, cumbersome and difficult for refugees to negotiate that more than half a million people are currently on the waiting list.

Critics charge that the lack of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and the U.S. has complicated the process, since the two countries do not talk directly to each other and must use the United Nations as an intermediary.

Of those who do not make it to the United States, a disproportionate number are elderly or sick. And many, depending on their immigration status, are ineligible to receive medical or public assistance until they have been here three years.

"The program has seemed to be the way for the Vietnamese to see out elderly and ethnic Chinese people while extorting money from them at the same time," says Vu-Di Vuong, director of the Center for Southeast Asian Refugee Resettlement (CSEARR).

"It was the young and the fit capable of escape by boat, they escaped first and are now trying to retrieve their elderly parents," says Laurie Reemysnyder of the International Committee for Migration (ICM), offering another factor in the

continued on page 12

ຂ່າວໃນກຸ່ມຊາວລາວ

LAO COMMUNITY NEWS

ການປະດິດ ເຂົ້າປາອາຫານໃນປະເທດ ເອ (ເຊິ່ງມີຄວາມຫຍຸ້ງຍາກປ່າງສຸກເສີມ)

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Over 150 new voters were signed up last month by members of Asian Community Enterprises at a festive table on Eddy Street

Lao, Khmer Language Classes Keep Native Tongues Alive

by Sophat Pak and Chanthanom Ounkeo

When Laotian refugee Soi Pornang moved to the United States three years ago, he worried that his children might forget their native language and culture.

classes started in the Tenderloin YMCA, he quickly enrolled his 13-year-old son Bounchan. "He will learn much faster than me," says Pornang, who never learned to read and write in Laos. "Then he can read all our letters from our family in Laos and Thailand, for all the family here."

Pornang, too sick to currently attend class himself, plans to enroll

ຄົມຂຸດໃໝ່ ໄປຈັດຊື້ປ່ອມພັດ

ຮ່ວມຊື້ກອງຮຽນຄົມຂຸດປ່ອມພັດ ຊື້, ທີ່ປະຊາກອນທ້າວໄພ ໃຫ້ເດີນວຽກ ມີຊາວເອເຊີຢ່າງມາ 150 ຄົນ ຈັດຊື້ປ່ອມພັດ ທີ່ວັດພູມສາດ ທີ່ວັດພູມສາດ ທີ່ວັດພູມສາດ

Over 150 new voters were signed up last month by members of Asian Community Enterprises at a festive table on Eddy Street

Elderly Vietnamese woman steps into a new world as she arrives at San Francisco Airport.

continued on page 12

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Dennis Conkin

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**Congratulations from the Tenderloin
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Since the founding of **The Times**, Tenderloin rents have more than doubled and the homeless population has steadily increased.

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LARKIN STREET YOUTH CENTER,
a multiservice agency for homeless, run-away and street youth at 1042 Larkin Street. For youth age 12-17. Drop-in center open 9:30 am-9:30 pm, Monday to Friday and 1-5 pm, Saturday.

Congratulations on your Tenth Anniversary.

Women With AIDS Need Housing, Child Care

continued from page 1

going public and getting treatment, counseling, and social services.

"They suffer from this stigma, that because AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease, that all women with AIDS are junkies, or whores, or promiscuous," said Catherine Maier of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, who says these assumptions are not based in fact.

One woman called her for counseling anonymously for five months before getting up the courage to attend one of Maier's support groups in person. In addition, said Maier, she has received dozens of other anonymous calls for counseling from women she has never seen.

"The biggest thing with women with AIDS is isolation," said Maier.

Sybill (not her real name), a former prostitute, said she had practiced safe sex after she found out she had ARC, but was afraid to tell any client she had the virus. "Maybe he would beat me up," she said. "I feel AIDS is the leprosy of the 80s."

Because of their isolation, the women could benefit from supportive counseling but instead, many go underground. Henri Norris organized a support group for women with AIDS in Bay View Hunter's Point but said no women had attended.

"We're in the black community where there is a greater fear of repercussions or identification," said Norris, who works for the Multicultural Alliance for Prevention of AIDS. One of Norris' clients, who was an I.V. drug user, feared for her life if anyone in her community found out she had the disease, especially those who had shared needles with her.

Among 50-odd anonymous calls Maier has received, there have been middle-class women who got AIDS from a husband or partner. One woman said she started having fevers, night sweats and swollen glands and went to the doctor, who wanted her to have an antibody test.

The woman said she asked her doctor, "What for? I've been married 25 years. I've always been faithful." When her test came back positive, the woman was incredulous. "I really wanted to kill him," she told Maier.

Even women who got the disease through blood transfusions may be afraid to tell a social worker what their diagnosis is. "The stigma and the questions that people ask are too much," said Maier. So they often tell people they have cancer.

Maier speculated that women's shame causes the disease to be under-reported. Many social workers say women's secretiveness about the diagnosis makes prevention harder and does nothing to push for more services designed especially for women.

While the political activity of the gay men's movement helped unite

their community when the AIDS epidemic began to hit men, women with AIDS and ARC, many of whom did not think of themselves as feminists, had no similar community to fall back on in time of crisis.

Maier's group, which is well-attended, has been able to break through women's isolation. "The women in this group call themselves a community now," she said.

"It's really touching and it's really powerful because these women actually form bonds with other women, and for most of them, it's the first female bond they've ever had in their male-oriented lives," said Maier.

Besides the emotional support, the women have worked together on projects, such as starting a clothing bank for AIDS patients.

Maier's group includes 32 women,



Women overcome isolation to form bonds with each other at a support group at the SF AIDS Foundation.

19 of whom were I.V. drug users. There are 21 women with ARC; the others have AIDS. Among them are 21 mothers and five grandmothers. Ethnically, they are a very diverse group: one Pacific Islander, one Cambodian, one Native American, four Latinas, seven blacks and 19 whites.

Three women have died since the group started. "That's really upsetting to them," said Maier. Although 19 women in the group are on methadone to fight former heroin habits, "They slip sometimes and use (drugs) occasionally, especially after the death of a woman in the group," said Maier.

Electra said that during her first two sessions, the group dealt with the deaths of two members. "That really brings it home," she said. "You realize people are dying around you. It seems like the people that die are fine, and then they die, you know? That really drives you crazy, because I feel normal now, but I know I could jump up and die. That's what the other girls did."

Finding stable housing is a major

problem faced by women with AIDS and ARC, according to Downing. Most of her clients live in hotels in the mayor's homeless program, which provides a room for three to five days, after which the women must find another place to stay.

Many of the women end up in the Tenderloin, because it's the only place they can afford. While Ruth Schwartz of the AIDS Foundation called Tenderloin hotels "lousy housing" because they are "sleazy, and improperly maintained and managed," Maier and Downing said some of their clients choose to live in the Tenderloin because they are accepted there.

"There's a greater sense of community there than in other parts of the city," said Downing. "And there's access to resources that aren't available if you live out in the Sunset."



Photo: Anne Meredith

Maier added, "Sometimes acceptance and support are more important than plush surroundings and sterling silver flatware."

Women with AIDS said living in a tough neighborhood in cramped hotel rooms can be an added stress for them.

Tanya (not her real name) fled one Tenderloin hotel because of the violence she saw there and lack of privacy.

"I don't think it is right for people with AIDS or ARC to be in a hotel," she said. "They should be somewhere that is quiet and peaceful, away from everybody, where they can live in a positive atmosphere."

Sybill (not her real name) is a 39-year-

old former heroin addict who has tuberculosis caused by ARC. She suffered broken ribs and a punctured lung when an irate neighbor in her Tenderloin hotel assaulted her. From her hospital bed, she told the Times that her doctor had warned her that in her fragile state she could die as a result of the attack.

child welfare system in the past, while others are involved in custody battles with ex-husbands, grandparents and in-laws. They may fear that if they show social workers how ill they really are, they will lose their children. "So they have to pretend that they're better than they are," said Maier.

Also, she has seen eight women give their children up for adoption in order to be eligible for residential programs for AIDS patients who can't live independently. All residential programs prohibit children, spouses or partners from living with the AIDS patient.

Misty, a divorced woman with ARC, chose to keep her children with her in her cramped Tenderloin hotel room, even though relatives were willing to take them. "My kids say they are happier," said Misty. "They make me a lot happier."

A former heroin addict, at one time she lost her two children to foster care when she and her ex-husband overdosed on drugs. Now that she has overcome her addiction and regained custody, she recalls the separation with pain.

"If I don't have that much time to live, I would like to spend the rest of it with my kids," said Misty. Both of her children know she is terminally ill, she adds, and she worries about the effect that has on them.

"If I get to the point where I am really sick, and my kids have to stick around and watch it, I don't want that," she said. "I don't want them to see me going." She plans to arrange for her children to be adopted by her mother when she is no longer able to take care of them.

Sybill chose to let her 10-year-old daughter, whom she hasn't seen in five years, be adopted by friends in her home town in Canada, who have told the child about her mother's illness.

"I've left her alone," said Sybill. "I haven't bothered my daughter because I don't want to cause her stress. She brought such joy to my life. I praise the Lord that He gave her to me for five years." She wants to see her daughter once before she dies. "I won't cry when I see her again because it's too traumatic to see your mother cry."

Some social workers say they have seen discrimination in child care for children of parents with AIDS/ARC. Dee Del Drago, who used to work in an addiction treatment agency in San Francisco, recalled a time when the agency was trying to arrange day care for the children of recovering I.V. drug-addicted mothers. When she told a day care agency that some of the mothers were at risk for AIDS, "They

"If I don't have that much time to live, I would like to spend the rest of it with my kids."

practically ran out the door," she said. There is a 30 to 65 percent risk that pregnant women with AIDS will pass the disease on to their unborn babies. It is not known which poses a greater threat to the health of a woman with the AIDS virus: carrying a pregnancy to term, or having an abortion. Some medical studies show that pregnancy weakens an AIDS patient's immune system, while others show that it doesn't.

Mothers With AIDS

Many times, mothers who are current or former drug addicts don't have the chance to choose between abortion and birth because drug abuse and methadone can suppress a woman's menstrual cycle. They might not notice that they're pregnant, so that by the time they find out they're expecting a baby, it's too late to look at other choices besides birth, according to Downing.

So far, there are very few babies with the virus in San Francisco, but most social workers and medical personnel anticipate that their numbers will increase in the future.

Some of these mothers have already temporarily lost their children to the

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Times Interview: Mayoral Candidate Cesar Ascarrunz

Interview by Sara Colm and Karen Koenig

The following interview with nightclub owner Cesar Ascarrunz is the fifth and final interview in a series of interviews with candidates running for mayor in this month's election.

Ascarrunz, 46, was born in Bolivia and attended U.C. Berkeley and the University of San Francisco before becoming a nightclub owner in the 1960s. A musician who describes himself as a self-made millionaire, Ascarrunz owns Cesar's Latin Palace in the Mission District. This is his third bid for mayor.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: How do you feel about your campaign at this point? Are you hopeful about your prospects?

ASCARRUNZ: I'm going to win. The Examiner, the Chronicle, the television—they like to ignore me. You will not ignore the wishes of the people. In San Francisco we have 50,000 Hispanic votes, 25,000 Filipino-American votes, 15,000 Arab votes, 30,000 Chinese, 35,000 black votes. From those, I got 75,000—I'm going to get half of the other votes, and nobody will touch me in November. There will be 275,000 voters in the November election. Just take the rest out of that—it's not enough to catch me.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: Let's talk about how you would address the needs of the Tenderloin.

ASCARRUNZ: I have a lot of friends here. I can walk with you everywhere—most of the people in the area know who I am. One way or the other I always help them. Mr. Boas, Agnos, Molinari, they come here once in a while when there's an election.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What are some of the problems and issues that you see confronting the Tenderloin?

ASCARRUNZ: There's a lot of unemployment in the Tenderloin. We live in one of the wealthiest and healthiest economies in the world. But it's a fake economy. We have to play like it's a real economy. You need a businessperson. Now I'm going to tell you how the system works. Every night when I open my business I have to have three security police officers for 6 hours while Fisherman's Wharf people, they make millions of dollars, and they don't have any security at all—they expect everything by the city. So those dollars I would put in the Tenderloin—more protection for the people, less crime.

You have to give the people in the Tenderloin dignity, you have to put them back in the society, you have to give them self respect. We can accommodate these people in the Tenderloin.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What would you spend the money on—what would be your priorities?

ASCARRUNZ: You know the priorities—I would come to see you. We will sit down and I will say where do you think we can spend this money better? You are the experts. I'm not going to tell you I'm going to do this—I would be a liar. If I'm going to tell you in a book I'm going to do this, you don't know the next day what's going to happen. You cannot project those things in books by guys in Sacramento—he doesn't live here.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What would you do to preserve or create more affordable housing in the Tenderloin?

ASCARRUNZ: It's very hard to create new housing. I travel around the world, many countries. I'm going to give you a beautiful phenomenon on what happens in Brazil, in Rio. Rio is like San

Francisco—there's no space. The only way you can solve the problem is to let the city be the landlord—don't give for free—make them responsible, lease it to them or sell to them. In the Western Addition you see those empty towers. You have a lot of houses there. But who's going to build (rehabilitate) them? We don't have expertise over here. In public works, it takes six to seven months to get a little permit, to get anything. We have to have professional people.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: So what would you do about the existing housing in the Tenderloin?

ASCARRUNZ: We have to upgrade it, the best we can. I will bring architects from other countries, people with integrity. I'm going to give you a classic example. You know that Mission Cultural Center—the bidding was \$700,000 by a regular licensed plumber, carpenters, sheet rock—they got the bids. The city took over and it cost \$2 million and not even half is finished. Is that the thing you want in City Hall?

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What kind of experience would you bring to the job of mayor?

ASCARRUNZ: I'm a successful businessman. I'm a community oriented man. I've donated my place, Cesar's Latin Palace, 725 times for free. Every Sunday afternoon for the last four years you will see between 700-1000 senior citizens dancing there. Why doesn't the newspaper mention that? Never. Can you tell me who does those kind of things? No one. Not Molinari, Agnos, Boas, Renne, Nelder, Hongisto, Britt—nothing. They don't have any abilities to do that. This Sunday I'm doing a benefit in conjunction with several hospitals—a beautiful thing—doctors donating their time. I'm doing other benefits for AIDS all the time. I don't have time, I don't sleep sometimes.

I became wealthy. I don't have credit cards, never took bank loans, I own my own building, my business is paid for, my house is paid, my children's house is paid, my other house is paid, and my cars are paid. In 1983 when I ran, I was second to Feinstein. That was my goal, to be second. Now, this is the time.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: As mayor, what kinds of changes would you make in the way the city is run?

ASCARRUNZ: The city is not run professionally. The city is run by favors, by people who give something and then expect something. I will clean up City Hall. After November, when I'm in in January, that City Hall will be accessible at any given time. That's what City Hall is for. It's not just for kings and queens or big people or whatever you want to call them.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What kind of programs would you propose to deal with the homeless problem?

ASCARRUNZ: The homeless are people who have had all kinds of misfortune. You have to take them back to the society and give them pride. Those people communicate with me. They know my name very well.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: How would you bring them back to society?

ASCARRUNZ: We can rehabilitate those schools closed for earthquake safety. They have gyms, bathrooms, lots of room. They're even cleaner than the hotels we have around here and I would have police supervision at night. It's very simple because I communicate with them.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What would you do for the homeless in the long run, to get them out of shelters?

ASCARRUNZ: You go little by little, one by one. I would make a special office. It will take care of the homeless people.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What would it do? How would it help people move on?

ASCARRUNZ: (It would) see what they can do. Call people, see if there's any job for this or that—a placement center for them. Also the police will protect them in the shelter. We have enough police. I will ask the police department to work six hours for me.



Cesar Ascarrunz

TENDERLOIN TIMES: A lot of people in the Tenderloin live on General Assistance (G.A.) and the grant level is pretty low—\$311 a month. Would you consider raising the grant level?

ASCARRUNZ: Of course, I have to do that.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: How would you find the money to do that?

ASCARRUNZ: That's the kind of expertise I have. I'd have to take a look. There's a lot of things. You know, there's one guy in the water department who makes \$85,000 a year and one guy who waters the plants who makes \$45,000 a year. Have you ever been in City Hall? Half of the people are working, the others are walking, talking, taking a break. I have to retrain those people. You know the buses. We have 800 buses working between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. Between 9 a.m. and 3:00 in the afternoon, what are they doing there? Playing cards. They're making wages. They make fantastic money. They are my friends. They are going to vote for me. I'm sorry to say that but it means I have to retrain them, right?

I don't want San Francisco to survive. I want it to be successful. Anybody can survive, with \$311, people are surviving. Do you want that, or do you want \$411? Why not \$511? We have the abilities. There's a lot of retraining I would do in the whole city. The commissioners, I would clean them up.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What do you feel the future of the Tenderloin is—Do you think it's going to go upper income, condos—?

ASCARRUNZ: I think so. That's what they're trying to push. They have a plan, which I haven't seen.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What would YOU see as the future of the Tenderloin? What would you like to see?

ASCARRUNZ: The Tenderloin is going to be a business part of San Francisco according to the plan.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What is your plan?

ASCARRUNZ: My plan is giving these people a better place to live.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: And not in the Tenderloin?

ASCARRUNZ: The Tenderloin is all rotten. Well, at least part of it.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: So you would not see this as continuing to be a residential neighborhood?

ASCARRUNZ: I don't think so.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: So what would be here, more hotels?

ASCARRUNZ: I don't think so. In order for San Francisco to survive, it has to have more business.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What kinds of businesses would you see taking over the Tenderloin?

ASCARRUNZ: It's very hard for me to tell you today. I would lie to you. As a businessperson, as a human being, as a community worker, I've donated two years of my nine years to benefits. I will do the best I can to help the poor people. That's my goal. Education, the children, take care of the crime.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: If you feel the Tenderloin is not a good place to live, where will people go?

ASCARRUNZ: No, I'm not saying no place to live. We're going to upgrade that living. That's what I said before. You're talking about the future—ten, 20 years from now, I cannot project that. I'd be lying to you right now. We have to do some study of what we can do, how we can help the people.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: I just want to make sure I'm clear—you're saying that you would try to upgrade the Tenderloin for now but in the future it probably would be a business district.

ASCARRUNZ: Right now, yes.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: You would want to keep it residential?

ASCARRUNZ: Yes, residential, because people need that. I'm not going to make cement houses of San Francisco, never. We need people. When I came here in the 60s as a teenager, people walked in the streets like ants. Everybody walked along, "How are you?" Now you don't see that—everybody's afraid. At 11:00 the city was full of people. That was like in Buenos Aires, in Rio, in Europe. Now it's empty, just wind tunnels...of my mind. I'm a human being—you may not believe this—I'm a very accessible person, and I'm not arrogant like Mr. Agnos. I'm not a puppet like Mr. Molinari.

TENDERLOIN TIMES: What do you see as the key issue of your campaign?

ASCARRUNZ: We have a lot of crime here. Education—80 percent of the school kids are minorities—without education, there's more crime. The teacher is making \$12,000 or \$16,000 a year and the guy sweeping the streets makes \$24,000-28,000. Education is the most beautiful thing and ignoring that is very sad.

I will completely eliminate the school board. It's too political—Willie Brown telling who to run.

POETRY & PROSE

Tenderloin residents are encouraged to submit their work to: Poetry and Prose, c/o Robert Volbrecht, 146 Leavenworth, S.F., CA 94102 by the 15th of each month.

MARC

i wish i could forget you
your prehistoric stride
your idiotic smile
your adolescent lunge against the world

i wish i could pretend you don't exist
ignore your silent scorn
reverse your need to live on burnt-out nights

indeed, i can't detect
one reason to enlist a soldier
such as you
my fight against the fears
that you regard as nothing much or less

but since i can't forget
the sounds that herald dawn
the tightness of your breath
the path under your sighs
i watch
as time records
the days that do not matter
the nights that never see
the shadow of your ways.

Bobbie Thalia

THREE POEMS TO BE READ OUTLOUD

(1) Mayakovski

a markee of marbel
some kind of perriscope
clouning
"arogant Aaron"
with a vecablerry machured on the soshalst
table marjins,
a lait larinx halusinating fairn & filantropy
ratha unemployed,
wonest erb
now a pillarof Eyetalian exzile
abuzed in aksent,
the furst fyancy
of a Germin gaysha,
select sentor of serplus.

(2) Bed story for William F. Buckley, Jr.

an aved asprin
clumzy compis
reappearing thro typeriters heds,
a minority monopoly &
vested vestitch
off
material metafors
pleaze
dont transferr
foth to futill
quivering raretys.
orevoir nooratic orfan.

(3) Hemingway the Corrida lover

child-like acting aforizim
drinking cofee with a coff,
victem versus vurtue dissiple
& pudjy phantasy fullfilings
tragedys and folys,
erydite ill eel
caret happily jibeing gibe
handel-ing brokin veils
over there in the back.

Adrian Paun

UNCLE "C" AND HIS JUST REWARD

He was born to keep us laughing
And chuckling just a bit.
What a gift for laughter!
What a flair for wit!
Still, he had a weakness
Or so the story goes.
He liked his beer and cigarettes;
The naughty striptease shows!

Now, somewhere, he is happy!
Somewhere, he is glad,
And I just know he's laughing,
'Cause he wasn't all that bad!

But, truly, he was human
And likely, he'd be bored,
Without some Hell in Heaven
To keep him happy, Lord!

Gladys O'Laughlin

THE WRECK OF THE GAS PRINCE

So close to home, without warning
The spidery grasses on the playground of my dozing soul
Are trampled by the Nazis d'Amour.
Heavy ridged nailed boots,
Dragging more smoking mortars.
I spy You
In your bloom long ago through the lilacs
Soft inside the screened verandah.
I swim to the surface of my sleepingroom
And roll over.
The Gas Prince rumbles through
The warm thick blue-green
Phosphorescent water
—Full of isotopes—
And slips into the crosshairs.

I am heaped in the final cigarette ashes.
I am in my rumpled tux and
I have my funny nose on,
The rubber one. I brush off.
There is a reckoning to be done, eh?
I try a syllogism:
A. X
B. Y?
C. K KKK? Amigo, K?
And see here! The bibliography, too, is in shambles.
My mind was clearer before all this wrong-living took its toll.

Yes, yes a zillion times yes:
We subscribe to the Doctrine of Yin & Yang.
But we never got to stir the soup at the beginning,
Frothing away under the Word,
Mixing alphabets.
We did pluck the First Sprig of Wheat from
The V of famous rivers.
We runned away from Old Yang when he hurled Hissself
With his angry pointy head.
We waited for a long, long time for a god without a name
And gave up from what we couldn't say.

Jay Davis

SON

You
are my son
snuggled
in the blanket.
While
you're asleep,
I come into the room.
I bend over to see how you are,
quietly.
As you awaken, I pick you up,
and put your mouth to my breast.
And you suck, and suck, 'til it's empty!
Then I put you to the other one, and you suck—
they nourish you completely!
You
are
my
son!

Hillary Packard

UNTITLED TENDERLOIN

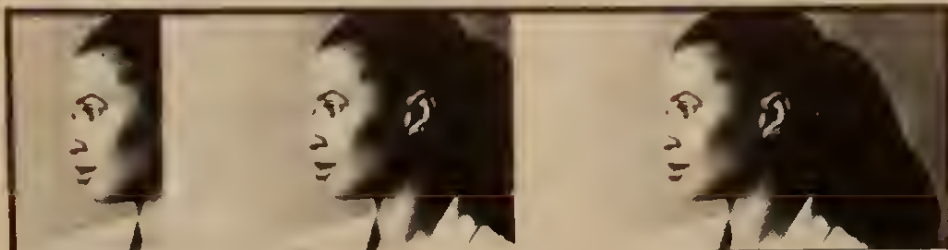
It takes two,
one to whisper, "Baby, . . .
and one to wish it was true.
The street is a slate that is never wiped clean,
forgiving and unforgiving,
accepting whatever falls to it,
runaways and lost boys,
the homeless like broken toys,
the girls who stayed out too late,
even Fate, face down and silent.
I don't give my real name to strangers.
In their faces, I look for danger,
in their eyes, I look for violent shadows,
or a cop playing the game.
They come for love
but loneliness bought the ticket
and I pull the train.
Sometimes it's the words that make them break
or something they've seen in books or magazines,
the sound of someone breathing so close.
They touch me like thieves,
and whisper between breaths, "Baby, . . .
I spit out the sweat of loneliness
onto the streets,
forgiving and unforgiving,
you can drop me where you picked me up, baby. . .

E. Castro

BROKEN CRADLE

In nearly ancient times, turn of the century
there would be combing of the hair
all night long, and kissing her.
here she hardly disturbs the bed it is said
the soul takes its burden of tears with it
and that it weighs something. She lies here
lightly, with uncombed hair. We stare
imagining it. My unruly bones like slats awry
sit me on a couch by her side. A taste of
ivy, bittered, browned, is hardly tasted. Intellect
ticks into the blood its sugar and its care.
Phone calls are made. Within the hour
my mom, like a broken cradle, is taken away
by a big stranger. No one has closed her mouth
which may have been gasping for air.

Janice King



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tenant tips

by Randy Shaw

Many tenants sign written rental agreements or leases with their landlords without carefully reading them. Some landlords take advantage of the fact that tenants may be desperate for a place to live, and they insert clauses in rental agreements that are either illegal or questionable. The following examples are some common provisions in rental agreements that are illegal or potentially invalid:

1. **Late fee charges:** Many rental agreements impose a fee if rent is not paid by a certain day of the month (usually the fifth day). While some late fee charges may be allowable, many rental agreements impose late fees that are far more than the actual cost to the landlord. Such unreasonable charges may violate state laws forbidding excessive interest rates. Tenants should get legal advice before agreeing in their lease to pay late fee charges.

2. **"Program fees" vs. "Rent":** Operators of "sober" or social service hotels often have rental agreements stating that the tenants are paying "program fees" and not "rent." This may be an attempt to avoid having to follow eviction procedures mandated by state law. Tenants who are told that their landlord does not have to go through the courts to evict them and that they are not entitled to the protections of eviction procedures should obtain legal advice.

3. **No-visitor policies:** Landlords who impose these policies usually do so in posted signs rather than rental agreements. It is not illegal for landlords to bar visitors who have previously caused problems in the hotel. On the other hand, the blanket barring of all visitors is illegal, but certain managers and operators continue to enforce such policies. If your landlord is barring all of your visitors from entering your room, ignore the policy and tell the landlord that he can call the police if he wants (as is usually their threat). The police have no authority to enforce no-visitor laws. If you prefer to avoid a confrontation, obtain legal advice.

There are many other lease provisions that are not legal under state law. These include provisions limiting a landlord's liability for personal injuries, provisions modifying the landlord's obligation to refund security deposits, and provisions which waive or modify any of a tenant's rights to procedural hearings to which they are entitled (such as the right to defend an attempted eviction through the courts).

If you have any suspicions about the legality of written notices or agreements with your landlords, do not comply without first obtaining legal advice.

Families with Problem Kids Needed for Research Project

The Brief Therapy Institute on Masonic Avenue, a nonprofit research and training center, is looking for families to take part in a study of how parents can help their children who have problems with lying or arguing. "If you have a kid in the first through eighth grades who needs this kind of help, give me a call at 621-8862," said Dr. Herdon Chubb, co-director of the institute. "It won't cost you anything if you decide to join the study."

Tenants Sue for Right to Post Campaign Signs in Homes

Last month the American Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit on behalf of tenants at the Park Merced apartment complex who have been barred from putting campaign signs in the windows of their apartments.

The suit, filed in San Francisco Superior Court on October 14, charged that the landlord is violating tenants' free speech rights in their own homes.

Puppets for Kids, Health Fair for Families

The third annual University of San Francisco Children and Family Health Fair promises something for everyone. Puppets, costumed characters, and free tee-shirts will be part of the fun as fair activities focus on good health, stress reduction and disease prevention.

The free fair will feature close to 50 booths with information on topics including emergency first aid, good nutrition, home and play safety, smoking and heart disease, exercise programs, and having a healthy baby. In addition,

there will be blood pressure, general health, and dental screenings.

A supervised play area will be set up for preschoolers who want to socialize with other youngsters while their parents explore the fair. The Devil's Slide Concert Band will entertain, and the Walden Marionettes will give performances at 10:30, 1:00 and 2:30.

This special one-day event is set for Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Millberry Union, 500 Parnassus Avenue on the UCSF campus.

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TL Women Preview Film on Joys, Sorrows of Aging

by Laurie Udesky

About a half-dozen women from the Tenderloin gathered last month for a preview showing of "Acting Our Age," a 60-minute film by Michal Aviad featuring six California women in their 60s and 70s, including Tenderloin resident Lucille Isenberg.

Although the process of aging is often feared and denigrated in our culture, the film shows that growing old has triumphs as well as struggles.

The film opens with a scene from Spring Gardens senior center on Oak Street. A group of elderly women dressed in brightly colored skirts and wearing flower leis move gracefully to a Hawaiian song, absorbed in the rhythm of the dance. One woman follows the movements of a fellow dancer, while another smiles as she moves her arms smoothly from side to side.

The film cuts to an image of a mother's hands holding a fairy tale book that shows a picture of an old woman who looks like a witch. A young woman's voice reads aloud from the book: "The old one was horrifying and so evil...she even made people have nightmares." Aviad's film challenges this stereotype of old women as malevolent crones. The women she interviewed question conventional standards of beauty.

One of the women in the film, Shevy Healy, 65, tells why she decided against a face lift. Her plastic surgeon had commented to her, "I'm going to make you look the way you feel inside." She says the comment shook her up so much that she decided to cancel the surgery. "I went home and thought about it for a long time and decided maybe there's another way to go," she says. "Maybe I can begin to feel at peace with my inside and my outside, without having to surgically remove the traces of my years."

A black woman in the film relates how racist views of beauty have excluded black women, no matter what their ages were. "White women—blond, blue eyes—they were the beauties," says Enola Maxwell, 66, whose wavy white hair flows down from under a wide-brimmed hat. "There was no point in saying you were beautiful if you were black. Somehow things are coming together now. I think black women are beginning to be called beautiful."

The six women in the film represent a cross-section of older women from a variety of ethnic and economic backgrounds. They have had to cope with the major changes that come with aging—poor health, the illness of loved ones, changing family relationships, the difficulties of living on a fixed income, isolation, and issues involving sexuality and intimacy.



Photo: Lance Woodruff

After viewing the film "Acting Our Age," Tenderloin resident Ana Bosch talked about how older women can avoid loneliness.

All of the women in the film live in ways that run counter to the image of older women staying home in their rocking chairs. While they have different life experiences, they share a deep commitment to working and spending time with people in their communities.

Phyllis Metal, 70, staffs an all-night hotline at San Francisco Suicide Prevention Inc. Enola Maxwell is executive director of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House. Carmen Morales, 67, cares for her disabled husband and still has time to volunteer at the Bernal Heights Senior Center. Irja Friend, 74, is active in the Gray Panthers. And Lucille Isenberg, 69, volunteers with the Older Women's League.

"Acting Our Age" is Israeli-born director and producer Michal Aviad's first major film, the culmination of 10 years of making documentaries on social issues. She said she began this film three years ago when she started getting comments that she looked good for her age. She was 32 at the time.

The idea for the film arose out of her concern that there is an artificial dividing line between younger and older women in our society. "We need to deal with the real issues of aging, while resisting the aspects of our culture which devalue us as we age," she said.

Aviad received production funding from numerous foundations, among them the California Council for the Humanities, the Vanguard Foundation, Film Arts Foundation, and Women's Educational Media.

The film elicited a variety of responses from the women gathered at the preview showing.

Lynn Bratcher, 34, asked questions most older women have to face as she wondered about Carmen Morales' future. "What if the same thing (illness) happens to this woman?" she asked. "What happens when he goes? She's bracing herself for it, but... if the savings go, will she have to sell the house in order to get him into a board and care home? And where will she go?"

Another young woman in the audience began thinking about her own

parents' future after she heard Shevy Healy talking in the film about how tragic her mother's death in a nursing home had been. Midge Wilson, 37, who arranged for the preview and discussion, began thinking aloud. "My mother has never in her life lived by herself," said Wilson. Her father recently had a stroke, causing her mother to worry about his death. "She is 68 now, and... she talked to me for the first time in our whole lives about what that would feel like."

On a more positive note, audience member Margaret Koskela said she was struck by the fact that the women in the film were really modern. "Women can do so many things now," she said. "We can speak out and dress how we want."

She found these things to be in marked contrast to her memories of women's role in times past. "Well, I remember that I had an aunt who cut her hair short," she said. "My uncle was so furious that he locked her up in the attic until it grew back!"

Ann Bosch, 86, never married, but, like some of the women in the film, she has succeeded in creating an extended family of friends in the Bay Area. "Tonight, I will have a visit from a friend from Stockton who calls me Mama Bosch," she beamed. "She is a poet and will spend the night and share some of her new poems with me."

"Acting Our Age" premieres November 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon Street in San Francisco, as a benefit for the Gray Panthers, The Women's Building, and Options for Women Over 40. Tickets are available at Glide Church. For more information about tickets, transportation, and child care, call 431-1180.

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Film on Aging Features Tenderloin Woman

by Laurie Udesky

One of the six women featured in the film "Acting Our Age," Lucille Isenberg, 69, moved to the Tenderloin two years ago from an upper middle-class neighborhood in Los Angeles. "The kitchen was my life, and my husband and my sons brought the world home to me," she says of her life in Southern California where she lived in a new house with a big yard. "There was a peach tree in the back yard, and I canned 100 quarts of peaches one summer," she recalls.

"When my husband died, I was out of a job," she says. She was forced to move to low-income housing to survive and found herself in the Tenderloin.

When she first came to the neighborhood she walked to the window of her ninth-floor apartment at O'Farrell Towers and wondered what she was doing here. "I felt like I was catapulted to another planet," she says, shaking her head.

"I don't really fit in here, but I have learned a lot," says Isenberg, elegantly dressed in a royal blue sweater and black skirt. "When I go outside, the prostitutes say, 'You really look gorgeous, you know that?' I respect them, and they respect me."

She says many older people try to make themselves invisible in the way they dress. After spending 30 years in the kitchen, Isenberg is working hard to make herself visible, not just by dressing well, but by becoming active in the community.

She no longer waits for others to bring the world to her. She works as a volunteer with an advocacy group called Older Women's League, and she teaches a creative journal-writing class



Lucille Isenberg

at Spring Gardens senior center. She says she enjoys teaching the course and finds class members' writing very stimulating.

Participating in the making of "Acting Our Age" fits right in with Isenberg's views on aging. "I've been on a crusade for younger women so they won't be afraid to get old," she says.

Talking about her life and the process of growing older in the film allowed her to fulfill some of her goals. "We need more intergenerational dialogue," she says.

"Older women need younger women and vice versa."

Help get out the word!
Volunteers needed to
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to door.
Call 776-0700.

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Second Hand Fashions

St. Anthony's Thrift Shop
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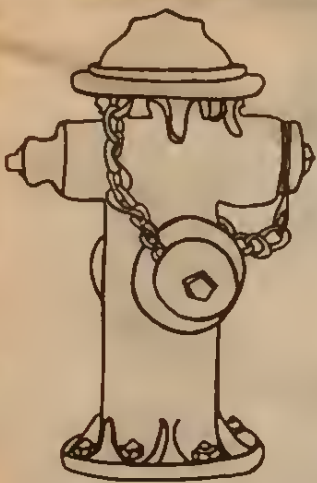
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 - \$2,700 một tháng
- Xin gọi số 731-6064



**VOTE
YES ON Q!**

**"... In a lot of ways—
San Francisco is built
to burn."**

Edward J. Phipps, Chief of the San Francisco Fire Dept.
April 27, 1987, National Underwriters Property & Casualty Insurance Weekly

PROP Q WILL:

- Allow public hearings on fire safety issues such as fire station closings and relocations.
- Increase daily firefighters staffing from today's 315 to 381 by 1990.
- Establish the current 41 fire stations as the minimum for San Francisco.
- Provide adequate funding for maintenance of equipment and facilities.
- Stabilizes or prevents large increases in fire insurance rates.

After an earthquake or other disaster, the Fire Dept. will be San Francisco's only defense. There are no second chances.

☑ Daily staffing has been cut 30%, 6 neighborhood fire stations and 12 fire companies have been closed, equipment & facilities have fallen into disrepair!

☑ Only a charter amendment can keep politicians from cutting fire protection.

☑ **No increase in taxes.** Continued expansion of the city tax base provides more than ample revenue for Prop Q.

**Vote Yes on Prop Q—
San Francisco needs a strong Fire Department!**

Supporters of Prop Q: John Molinari, Art Agnos, Cesar Ascarrunz, Willie Kennedy, Wendy Nelder, Milton Marks, Gina Moscone, Arlo Hale Smith, Joan Marie Shelley, Walter Shorestein and many other neighborhood business organizations including labor leaders and the SF Taxpayers Association.

The Tenderloin Cannot Afford Proposition T

Proposition T is one of the most misleading ballot initiatives ever presented in San Francisco. The authors of Proposition T would like you to believe that this measure is nothing more than an effort to rescind "a street giveaway to the Rockefellers." However, Proposition T has nothing to do with street giveaways or the Rockefellers. It has everything to do with whether middle and low-income San Franciscans can afford to live in this city.

Proposition T will lead to higher housing costs in San Francisco.

We cannot afford to be misled. **We must vote No on Proposition T.**

"Proposition T will help make San Francisco a preserve of the wealthy and force minorities out of the City."

— Leroy Looper, Executive Director
Reality House West

"Proposition T will hurt San Francisco's neighborhoods by contributing to the escalating costs of housing. I strongly urge you to vote No on Proposition T."

— Nancy Walker, President
San Francisco Board of Supervisors

"Proposition T is inherently misleading. It threatens to prevent the creation of open space and affordable housing in the City."

— Kelly Cullen, President
North of Market Planning Coalition

"Proposition T would be disastrous to elderly San Franciscans and people with fixed incomes. I strongly urge you to vote No on T."

— Lillian Crosthwaite, California Legislative
Council for Older Americans

WE URGE YOU TO VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION T

San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee
Young Republicans of San Francisco
Affordable Housing Alliance
National Women's Political Caucus
Coalition for Better Housing
Did St. Mary's Housing Committee
Alice B. Toklas Lesbian Gay Memorial Democratic Club
Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club
San Francisco Taxpayers Association
City Democratic Club
Frederick Douglass Symposium
Latino Democratic Club
District 8 Democratic Club
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
Raoul Wallenberg Jewish Democratic Club
Downtown Association of San Francisco
SPIR

Chinese American Democratic Club
Service Employees International Union Local 790
Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights
North Mission Association
North of Market Voters Club
Mayor Dianne Feinstein
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
Assemblyman Art Agnos
City Attorney Louise Renne
Supervisor Harry Britt
Supervisor Jim Gonzalez
Supervisor Tom Ito
Supervisor Willie Kennedy
Supervisor Bill Maher
Supervisor John L. Molinari
Supervisor Wendy Felder
Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver

Supervisor Nancy Walker
Supervisor Doris Ward
Sheriff Michael Hennessey
Planning Commissioner Richard R. Allen
Planning Commissioner Sue Blezner
Planning Commissioner Bernice Hemphill
Planning Commissioner Yoshio Nakashima
Planning Commissioner Toby Rosenblatt
Planning Commissioner Douglas G. Wright
John L. Burton
Former Member of Congress

Sue Hestor
San Franciscans for Reasonable Growth
Calvin Welch
Citizens for Representative Government
John H. Jacobs
Executive Director
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
Walter Johnson
Secretary/Treasurer
San Francisco Central Labor Council
Stan Smith
Secretary/Treasurer
San Francisco Building Trades Council
Geraldine Johnson
Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
Dale Carlson
Dick Pablich
Jim Rivaldo

Connie D'Connor
Ricardo Hernandez
Alfredo Rodriguez
Sal Roselli
Steven Taber
Tony Kilroy
Kelly Cullen
Randy Shaw
Lillian Crosthwaite
Peggy Kranz
Polly Marshall
Sitha Sum
Ed Emerson
Heidi Swartz
J.B. Saunders
G. Marla Smolens
Adam Kravitz
Marcelo Rodriguez
(A Partial List)



WELLS FARGO BANK

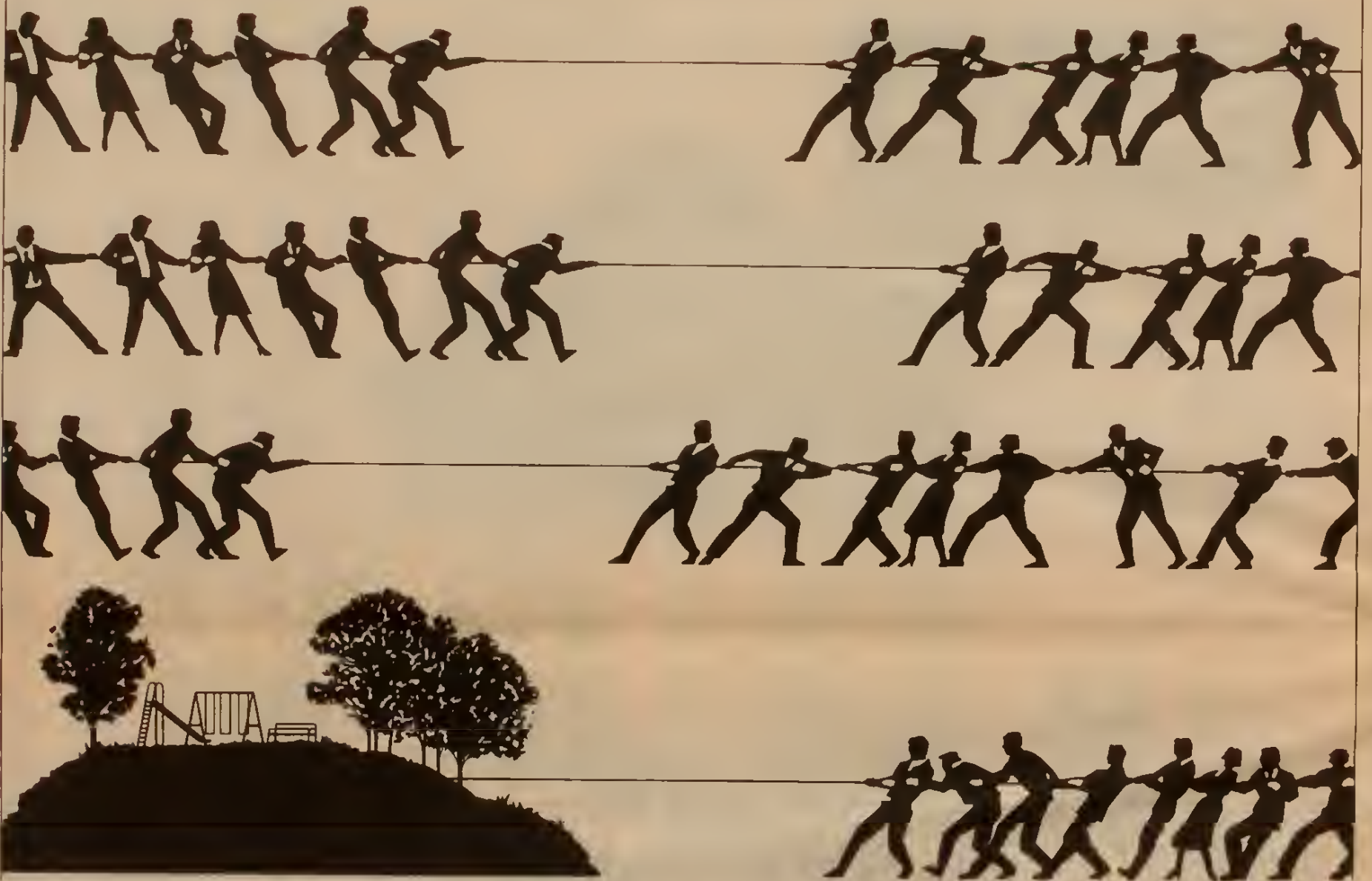
and



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Congratulating
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and
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Congratulations to The Tenderloin Times
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*Community means
“pulling together.”*

*To build a park. Restore a neighborhood. To look after
our children. Our homes. And one another.*

*That's why we're proud to give a hand to local communities.
Because when we all work together, nothing can tear us apart.*





ກິດໜ້າໃໝ່ອາດສົ່ງຄືນແວວແຟໄປ ເຮັດການໃຫ້ຫລວງ

ໃນເດືອນແລ້ວມັນທາງຄອບຄົວກະກັນພະ
ການຄວບຄຸມ ເນື່ອງໄດ້ເຊັນຮັບ ໃນການ
ວາງແຜນໃໝ່ໂຄງການ GAIN ເກມ
ຂຶ້ນມາທີ່ເປັນໂຄງການຮັບໃຫຍ່ທີ່ສຸດລ້າ
ລັບ ຄອບຄົວ ຜູ້ທີ່ໄດ້ຮັບເງິນແວວແຟ.
ກິດໜ້າໃໝ່ນີ້ ແມ່ນການຮອກມາ
ໂດຍສະພາ ມີທັບຍັດ ຣັດຄາລິຟໍເນຍ
ໃນປີ 1985. ການວາງແຜນປັດຈຸບັນ
ເພີ່ມກໍ່ລົງສິ່ງໃບ ໄປຍັງຮັບຖານແວວ
ເພື່ອການເພີ່ມຮ່ວມ ເປັນຂັ້ນສຸດທ້າຍຮັກ
ກອນຈະເຮົາຮອກມາປະຕິບັດ ໃນຕົ້ນປີ
ໜ້ານີ້.

ຄອບຄົວທີ່ໄດ້ຮັບເງິນແວວແຟ AFDC
ຈະຮອງໄດ້ໄປຈົດຊື່ເຂົ້າໂຮງຮຽນ ຝັກ
ງານ, ໄປຊຸກຫຼາງການ, ແຕ່ບາງກໍ່ຮະນີ
ຫລືບາງຄົນຈະໄດ້ຮັບລະບອບຈາກພະ
ບັກງານເວີກເກີ ໃຫ້ໄປເຮັດການແລະ
ຮັບເງິນແວວແຟທີ່ໄປທາງຄ່າເຮັດການ.
ໂຄງການນີ້ຈະມີໃຊ້ໃນຫລາຍກໍ່ຮະນີ
ຊຶ່ງເປັນສິ່ງຂັດແຍ່ງກັນ ເພາະວ່າຜູ້ຮັບ
ເງິນແວວແຟ ຄອບຄົວໃດທີ່ມີລູກແຕ່ບໍ່ມີ
ຜົວຫລືບໍ່ມີເມັຍນັ້ນ ຖ້າວ່າລູກຮາຍກາຍ
ຫຼືຫຼົງໄປແລ້ວ ຜູ້ຮອງໄດ້ໄປເຮັດການ
ນອກບານໝົດ. ຜູ້ສັບສຸນໂຄງການ
GAIN "ເກມ" ມີຄວາມສິ່ງເສີມແລະ
ຫາວິທີທາງຊຸກຍູ້ໃຫ້ຄົນຮອກຈາກ ແວວ
ແຟ ໄປເຮັດການກິນ. ແຕ່ວ່າຝ່າຍອົງ
ການແວວແຟ ໄດ້ໃຫ້ຄວາມສູ້ຮົມແລະ
ໂຈມຕີໄປວ່າທາງໂຄງການໃໝ່ນີ້ ວ່າ
ເປັນໂຄງການ ທີ່ບິບບັງຄັບ ໃຫ້ຄົນໄປ
ເຮັດການໄດ້ເງິນທ່າທີ່ສຸດ, ການຮັບທີ່
ເປັນເງື່ອນຂອງຄົນມາແລ້ວມັນ ຖ້າວ່າ
ເຂົາເຈົ້າຢາກຮັບເງິນ ແວວແຟ ທີ່ໄປ
ເຂົາເຈົ້າກໍ່ຈະຈຳເປັນຮອງໄດ້ເຮັດ.

ຮີນະຍົບຜູ້ທີ່ທາງໜັງສືພິມ ໄປສຳພາດ
ມັນ ຮູ້ສຶກມີຄວາມງົງຫລາຍກວ່າກັບອົງ
ການ GAIN. ບາງຄົນມີຄວາມມຸ່ງຫວັງ
ຢາກໃຊ້ເວລາ ຮຽນພາສາອັງກິດເພີ່ມ
ເຕີມແລະຮຽນຝັກແຍບງານນຳອົງການ

GAIN "ເກມ" ຫລາຍກວ່າຈະຮອກໄປ
ເຮັດການຕາມລະບອບໃໝ່ ທີ່ມີງຽບກ
ມານີ້, ບາງຄົນກໍ່ອຸກໃຈຢ່າມຍ້າຍມາ
ໄປຊຸກຫຼາຍໆຄັ້ງທີ່ຮາຍຢ່າມຍ້າຍມາ
ຈະຊຸກໄດ້ຈັກຂັ້ນເລີຍ.

ທາງອົງການທີ່ມີລູກນ້ອຍຮາຍຫຼືຍິ້ມໄປ
ແລະໄດ້ຮັບເງິນ ແວວແຟ AFDC ນັ້ນ
ຈະຮອງໄດ້ເຂົ້າອົງການ GAIN ເວັ້ນ
ເສັ້ນແຕ່ຜູ້ມີອາຍຸແກ່ ຫລື ຜູ້ທີ່ໃຫ້ຖືກຮັກ
ເວັ້ນໃນກໍ່ຮະນີພິເສດເຊັ່ນວ່າ ເປັນຈົນ
ເສັ້ນອົງຄະ ຫລືຄອບຄົວທີ່ມີຄວາມຫຍຸ້ງ
ຍາກຢ່າງສຸກເລີຍ. ບໍ່ແມ່ນຜູ້ທີ່ມີລູກນ້ອຍ
ຮາຍທ່າກວ່າຫົວປີ ຈະຮອງຖືກບອກໄປ
ເປັນອາສາສະໝັກຊ່ວຍ.

ຜູ້ທີ່ເຂົ້າອົງການ GAIN "ເກມ"
ຈະດຳເນີນຮັບເງິນແວວແຟ, ຟຸດສ໌ແທນ
ແລະໃບປະກັນພັຍໂຮງໝໍ ເມດິແຄລິ
ຮອງເຂົາເຈົ້າໄປຈົນເຖິງກຳນົດສອງ
ປີໃນລະຍະທີ່ຮຽນຝັກງານ ຫລືໄປຊຸກ
ງານທ່າຢູ່ນັ້ນ, ພ້ອມກັບການຝັກເຈັກ
ແລະອາເຕີມທາງຖ້າຮອງການ.

ຖ້າຜູ້ກຽມຄົນໃດບໍ່ຮຽນສຳຮັງກິລາລຽງ
ພໍ, ຜູ້ຮຽນຄົນນັ້ນສາມາດໄປເຂົ້າຮຽນ
ພາສາອັງກິດໄດ້. ຫລັງຈາກຄົນໃດຈົບ
ໂຮງຮຽນຝັກງານແລະການສຶກສາຈາກ
ອົງການແກ່ແລ້ວ ແຕ່ບໍ່ຮູ້ສາມາດຊຸກ
ການໄດ້ຫລືບໍ່ມີການເຮັດນັ້ນຈະຮອງໄດ້
ໄປເຮັດການສ່ວນຮວມໃຫ້ຫລວງໃນກຳ
ນົດນັ້ງປີ. ຄ່າເຮັດງານຊົ່ວໂມງລະ 35
ຫລື ພວກເຮົາເຈົ້າຮາດກັບຄືນໄປເຂົ້າ
ອົງການຮຽນຝັກງານຫລືຮຽນໜັງສືພິມ
ຖ້າວ່າຜູ້ກິນເງິນແວວແຟໃດຫາກປະ
ຕິເສດບໍ່ໄປເຂົ້າໂຮງຮຽນຝັກງານຫລືບໍ່
ໄປຊຸກຫຼາຍໆທ່າ ຜູ້ນັ້ນຈະໄດ້ຖືກຂັດ
ລອກແວວແຟຫລືບໍ່ດັ່ງນັ້ນຈະໄດ້ເຂົ້າຫາ
"ຄອບຄົວຈັດການກຽມກັບເງິນ" ໃນ
ກະຊວງການສັງຄົມສິງເຄາະ, ໜ້າຍ
ຄວາມວ່າກະຊວງຝ່າຍນັ້ນ ຈະຄວບຄຸມ
ຫລືກຳເງິນ ແວວແຟຂອງທ່ານໄວ້ໝົດ
ແລ້ວ ເພິ່ນຈະໃຊ້ຈ່າຍເອງໄປໂດຍຮົງ
ຄ່າໃບຍືນຊື່ກິນແລະຄ່າເຮືອນທັງໝົດ.



Photo: Lance Woodruff

The Lao community gathered last month to form a "money tree" to support the Oakland temple.

ໃນຕອນແລ້ວວັນເສົາ ທີ່ 17 ເດືອນແລ້ວ, ຊາວລາວໃນ ແຂວງແຮມຊິສໂກ
ໄປເຂົ້າໂຮມກັນທີ່ບ້ານຂອງ ທ່ານ ຄຳຈັນ ຫລວງພິໄຊຍ, ຫລວງພາ ແມນີເຈີ
ອາພັດເນມ 346 ຖຸນິນ ລີຟເວີນເວີດທ໌ ເພື່ອແຂນຕົ້ນທາງຮະນີກ ພ້ອມດ້ວຍມີ
ການຄົບງົບຕາມປະເພນີ. ທີ່ໄປໃນຕອນເຊົ້າຂອງ ວັນອາທິດ ທີ່ 18, ພວກ
ເຂົາເຈົ້າໄດ້ແຕ້ມໄປບັງຄັບເນືອງ ໂອກແລນ ເພື່ອໂຮມບຸນກັນຖືກັບຊາວ
ລາວເນືອງ ແຂນຮາໂຮຊາ, ແຂນຮາແຟວ, ເບີກລີ, ໂອກແລນ, ຮີສນອນດ
ແລະ ແຂນພະໂບຣ.

ງານກິນລາງຄົບຮອບສິບປີຂອງ ໜັງສືພິມ ເທັ້ນເດີລອຍທ່ານສ໌

ສຳມັກງານໜັງສືພິມ ເທັ້ນເດີລອຍ 19 ເດືອນ ໂມແຈມເບີ. ໄປຮັດຕິດຕໍ່
ທ່ານສ໌ ອໍເຊີນທາງທ່ານ ມາຣວມງານ ນາງ ຈັນຖຸນອນ ຮຸ່ນແກວ, ໂທຣະສັບ
ກິນລາງຫລາຍໄດ້ ເພື່ອສຸລອງ ວັນຄົບ 665-7526 ເພື່ອຈອງປື້ ຫົກເກັດ.
ຮອບສິບປີ, ທີ່ຈະໄດ້ຈັດຂຶ້ນ ຢູ່ທີ່ 901 ແລະໂປຣດໃຫ້ຄວາມສຳນັບສຳນຸມແກ່ການ
Market St. ໃນຕອນຄ່າຂອງວັນທີ່ ດຳເນີນໜັງສືພິມຕໍ່ໄປ! ອໍຂອບໃຈ

ສຳມັກງານໜັງສືພິມລາວ ເປີດໃຫ້ນຳ



Vandy Sivongsay. ວັນຄົ ສີວິງໄຊຍ

ແຕ່ງໂດຍ: ຈັນຖຸນອນ ຮຸ່ນແກວ
ໃນເດືອນແລ້ວ, ທ່ານ ວັນຄົ ສີວິງ
ໄຊຍ, ຜູ້ທາງໜ້າສະມາຄົມລາວເສຣີ
ເນືອງແຂນແຟຣມຊິສໂກ ໄດ້ເຊີນເຖົ້າ
ແກ່ຄົນລາວມາຮວຍໄຊຍ ໃຫ້ພ້ອມໃນວັນ
ເປີດຫຼັງການໃຫ້ຂອງລາວເພື່ອເລີ້ມ
ຕັ້ງໃຫ້ເປັນສຳມັກງານ ໜັງສືພິມລາວ
ໂດຍສເພາະ.

ຂ້າວປະເພນີຂອງຄົນລາວ ແລະ ທ່ານ
ວັນຄົ ເວົ້າວ່າ ມັນບໍ່ເປັນຂອງຄົນລາວ
ໂດຍຮົງ. "ພວກເຮົາຮູ້ດີວ່າ ໜັງສື
ພິມຂອງເທັ້ນເດີລອຍທ່ານສ໌ ມັນມີຂ້າວ
ລາວແຕ່ວ່າມັນບໍ່ຮຽງພໍ, ມັນພໍຮຽງສຳ
ລັບໃນຄຸ່ມເທັ້ນເດີລອຍເທົ່ານັ້ນ. ພວກ
ເຮົາຈະພະຍາຍາມເຮັດແບບທາງແລະ
ເຮັດໜັງສືພິມເປັນເຫລັ້ມໃຫ້ຍຸດ.
ພວກເຮົາຈະເລີ້ມທາງເຂົ້າຂ້າວມາຈາກ
ເນືອງລາວ, ແລະຈາກທີ່ວ່າຫຼັງຖືກມີ
ຮັດຄາລິຟໍເນຍຫລືຮັດອິນຊອກ."

ທ່ານວັນຄົ ຈະຫາວິທີທາງຊຸກເຂົາ
ຄົນລາວຜູ້ຮັດຮິນເພື່ອເປັນຄົນໜຸ່ມສ່ວນ
ໃນການໃຫ້ຂ້າວ ເຫດການເກີດຂຶ້ນການ
ສ້າງຊື່ວິດໃໝ່ຂອງຄົນລາວ ໃນສະຫະ
ຣັດ ແລະສິ່ງອື່ນໆທີ່ເປັນໜ້າສົນໃຈແກ່
ຄົນລາວມາຮອກຂ້າວ ໃຫ້ທຸກຄົນໄດ້ຮານ
ແລະຮູ້ພລອດກັນ.

"ພວກເຮົາຮອງການຢາກຮູ້ຂ້າວຂອງ
ຊາວລາວ ຮີນະຍົບ ໃນທຸກທິນ ທຸກແຫ່ງ
ຈາກໝູ່ເພື່ອນ ແລະຍາດພີ່ນ້ອງຢູ່ທາງ
ແຂນຕີເອໂກ, ຮັດວິຊຶງຕັນ ຫລືຮັດອິນຊອກ.
ທຸກວັນເວລາມີພວກເຮົາມີແຕ່ຄິດ
ຮອດ ບ້ານເກີດ ເນືອງມອມຂອງເຮົາ
ຮັບເປັນເວລາດົນນານທີ່ຍັງລໍຄອຍຖ້າຮູ້
ຂ້າວຈາກທາງບ້ານ"

ໜັງສືພິມລາວ ເສຣີພາບ ສະບັບແຮກ
ຈະອອກໃນເດືອນພິສຈິກາ Nov. ໂດຍ
ທ່ານວັນຄົ ສີວິງໄຊຍ ວ່າຍເຮັນຊິເຣ.
ເຊີນສັງຈອງໜັງສືພິມລາວ ເຫລັ້ມໃໝ່
ໄດ້ລວງໜ້າ ທີ່ຊັ້ນສອງ YMCA 220
Golden Gate Ave. ຫລັງ 200
San Francisco, CA 94102
ໂທຣະສັບ (415) 474-6982.

ປ້ອງກັນອັນຕລາຍ ເມື່ອມີແຜ່ນດິນໄຫວ

ຮາຍລະອຽດດັ່ງກ່າວລົງຂ້າງລຸ່ມນີ້
ແມ່ນອໍແນະນຳໃຫ້ຄວາມ ຮະນັດ
ຮະວັງເມື່ອມີແຜ່ນດິນໄຫວເກີດຂຶ້ນ.
ສິ່ງທີ່ໃຫ້ຂໍ້ຮຽນໄວ້ພ້ອມມີຄື:
* ຮາຫາມ, ນ້ຳແລະຢາກິນທຸກໆມີ
ໄວ້ໃນບ້ານໃຫ້ກຸ່ມກິນພາຍໃນຫາມີ.
* ໄຟສ່າຍ, ຖ່ານໄຟສ່າຍ ແລະໝໍ້
ໄຟແກ່ສັກບຸກຕຽມໄວ້ພິເສດ ໂກນີ້.
* ຊຸ່ມແປງຫລືມັດເທົາຕົ້ນນ້ຳຮ່ວມ
ຜິດຝ້າໄວ້ໃຫ້ແໜ້ນດີ ເພື່ອປ້ອງກັນບໍ່
ໃຫ້ໝໍ້ຂົ່ວມ.
* ບອກກ່າວໃຫ້ທຸກຄົນໃນຄອບຄົວຮູ້
ບອນຈະປິດໝໍ້ໄຟຟ້າ ຖ້າຈຳເປັນ.
ຕອນເວລາແຜ່ນດິນກຳລັງໄຫວ
* ບໍ່ຮອງທຶກໃຈ - ຮອງເຮັດໃຫ້ຄົນ
ຮີນໝໍ້ໃຈຂຶ້ນຮີກ ແລະບໍ່ຮອງເຮົາ
ສິ່ງຂອງຢ່າງໄວ້ເບື້ອງເທິງ.

* ເຂົ້າຢູ່ກຽງໄຕະ, ກຽງຮອງ ຫລື
ຢືນຢູ່ຮົງກຽງອີ ແລະ ກຽງປະຕູ.
* ບໍ່ຮອງແລບອອກໄປນອກຫລືແລນ
ລົງຊັ້ນລຸ່ມ. ຖ້າຢູ່ໃນໂຮງຢູ່ໃນ, ຖ້າຢູ່
ນອກ ໃຫ້ຢູ່ນອກແລະຊຸກຮັບບັງໄວ້,
ໃຫ້ເບິ່ງສິ່ງທີ່ຈະລິ່ມທິວ.
ຫລັງຈາກແຜ່ນດິນໄຫວເຊົາແລ້ວ
* ກວດເບິ່ງ ບາງທິນຄົນຖືກເຈັບ.
* ກວດເບິ່ງ ຢ່ານມີໄຟໄຫວ ແລະ
ຖ້າວ່າຈຳເປັນໃຫ້ປິດໝໍ້ໄຟຟ້າໄວ້.
* ຢ່າຟ້າວໄຕ້ໄມ້ຂີດ ແລະເປີດໝໍ້
ໄຟຟ້າ. ໃຫ້ໃຊ້ໄຟສ່າຍເຮົາກອນ.
* ຄອຍໆຮາຍນ້ຳເຢັນໃສ່ກວດໄວ້.
* ກວດເບິ່ງເຮືອນບອນເພພັງ ຖ້າ
ເປັນອັນຕລາຍໃຫ້ໝີຈາກເຮືອນ.
* ບໍ່ຮອງຟ້າວໃຊ້ໂທຣະສັບ ເວັ້ນ
ໄວ້ແຕ່ມີການສຸກເສີມຢ່າງຈຳເປັນ.



Cướp Giảm Tại Tenderloin Nhưng Vẫn Còn Nguy Hiểm

Josh Brandon

Các vụ án cướp trong khu vực Tenderloin đã giảm xuống bảy phần trăm trong năm qua, khi án cướp chỉ giảm dưới một phần trăm trong toàn thành. Nhưng ban đêm đi bộ trong Tenderloin cũng vẫn nguy hiểm, theo sự phân tích trong tờ tường trình tháng 8 năm 1987 của Điện Toán Trợ Giúp Thi Hành Pháp Luật vùng vịnh.

Trong số những vụ án cướp được biết trong thành phố, một phần tư xảy ra trong Tenderloin. Trong khoảng 50 vụ được báo cho cục cảnh sát khu vực phía bắc và trung bộ, coi về 50 chòm nhà vùng Tenderloin, khoảng hai phần ba đều xảy ra giữa 6 giờ chiều và 4 giờ sáng.

Nhưng thực tế có thể còn tệ hơn nhiều, theo trung sĩ Dennis Gustafson, giám đốc cục cảnh sát của nhóm phòng ngừa những tội đối với người già.

"Khoảng ba phần tư những vụ án cướp người già không được báo, trên phân nửa không được báo bởi những người Á Châu không biết tiếng Anh, tối thiểu con số đó cũng cao như vậy trong

một thời gian ngắn," Gustafson nói như vậy.

Thời gian nguy hiểm nhất của mỗi tháng, Gustafson nói, là ngày 1 tây và 15 tây khi ngân phiếu trợ cấp được phát và ngày 3 tây khi người già nhận tiền xã hội. Nói chung, các vụ án cướp hay xảy ra nhất trong 5 ngày đầu tháng.

Gustafson chỉ một vài cách phòng ngừa đơn giản mà có thể giảm bớt trường hợp bị cướp. Đó là:

*Thật thận trọng lúc ban đêm trong Tenderloin, nhất là sau 10 giờ đêm trong khoảng thời gian đóng cửa của các quán rượu. Nên đi với một người bạn hoặc một nhóm người. Những người đi một mình là mục tiêu của 97 phần trăm các vụ cướp.

*Lựa đường đi kỹ lưỡng bằng cách tránh những khu nguy hiểm, trong những khu Gustafson liệt ra gồm khúc đường Turk giữa Mason và Jones, và cạnh công viên Boedekker. Những khu an toàn nhất--không có vụ nào được báo trong tháng 8--là Civic Center, và khu bao bởi đường Post, Powell, Geary và Mason đối diện Union Square.

*Đi ở những chỗ sáng và tránh những hẻm và góc tối.

Một Người Việt Phản Chiến Nói Chuyện Tại Berkeley

Nguyen Huu Liem

Tháng vừa qua ông Đoàn Văn Toại, tác giả cuốn "Vietnamese Gulag" ("Quần Đảo Ngục Tù Việt Nam"), nói về kinh nghiệm của ông lúc còn là một học sinh phản chiến ở miền nam Việt Nam trong lúc chiến tranh, trước 30 khán giả tại Berkeley.

Toại lần đầu đến vùng vịnh vào thập kỷ 60 và hồi thúc Mỹ rút khỏi Việt Nam. Sau khi mất Sài Gòn vào năm 1975, ông bị Việt Cộng bắt bỏ tù hai năm rưỡi, tuy không có một tội rõ ràng. Sau đó ông được thả không có giải thích gì hết và được rời nước.

Được tổ chức bởi chi bộ vùng vịnh của Đảng Xã Hội Dân Chủ, buổi diễn thuyết đầy kích động của Toại tập trung vào hai câu hỏi: tại sao những phần tử trí thức và những người có tư tưởng tự do của các nước thế giới thứ ba ủng hộ cộng sản, và vì sao chính sách phản cộng của Reagan thất bại ở Trung Mỹ và những nơi khác.

Toại quả quyết rằng những phần tử cấp tiến ở thế giới thứ ba bị "đẩy" qua phía cộng sản. Mỹ cố dùng đầu với những vận động cách mạng nhưng không nhận thấy những thành phần ôn hòa, và Mỹ thường bị coi là người ủng hộ những chính sách dân

áp.

Khi người Mỹ đến các nước khác, họ kiên trì làm theo ý của họ, bất kể những yêu tố địa phương và sự khác biệt của tình hình chính trị phức tạp của nước đó, Toại nói vậy, Mỹ tạo sự phân rẽ của dân chúng, và điều đó có lợi cho cộng sản.

Bởi những nguyên do đó, Toại nói, nhiều người Việt Nam phản chiến đã gia nhập Mặt Trận Giải Phóng, dầu rằng họ biết đó là không chế bởi Bắc Việt. "Họ không còn sự lựa chọn nào khác," Toại nói với vẻ xót xa.

Để ví dụ, Toại kể câu chuyện của Huỳnh Tân Mâm, một học sinh rất tích cực và đáng chú ý, theo Toại Mâm không phải là thành viên Đảng Cộng Sản Việt Nam cho tới năm 1973, sau những năm bị tra tấn trong tù miền nam Việt Nam. Hà Nội trưng dụng Mâm khi sức khỏe và tinh thần ông gần kiệt quệ, Toại nói, thêm vào đó Mỹ biết sự đối xử không nhân đạo đó nhưng không làm gì hết.

Những phản ứng phía khán giả cho thấy rất rõ quan niệm chính trị của họ tương đối bảo thủ hơn so với Toại.

Nguyễn Bình, một học sinh Việt Nam, lên tiếng tỏ cáo Toại điều khiển bởi Hà Nội và nói với vẻ kích động rằng dầu sao đi nữa chính

Học Sinh Thiếu Nhi



Photo: Lance Woodruff

Trẻ em Việt Nam học tiếng mẹ đẻ ở trường Việt ngữ tại YMCA. Vietnamese youngsters learn their mother tongue at the Vietnamese language school in the YMCA.

*Chỉ mang những vật có giá trị không đáng kể.

*Tiền, giấy căn cước và chìa khóa nên để trong người. Để tránh bị mất nhiều, chỉ mang thật ít tiền hoặc để thật ít tiền trong bóp thứ hai để có thể đưa ra lúc cần.

*Nếu bị cướp, nên cố gắng nhớ thật chính xác mọi chi tiết lúc bị cướp và người cướp. Lập tức báo cảnh sát.

Gustafson nói thêm rằng tuân cảnh của hộ về dân sự thông qua chương trình của cục cảnh sát cho những người từ 55 tuổi trở lên sẽ bắt đầu trở lại vào đầu năm 1988. Chương trình hộ vệ người già mà đã hộ vệ trên 700.000 lần trong chín năm qua chưa lần nào bị cướp. Chương trình đó bị ngưng gần đây bởi vì tốn nhiều nhân viên và thị trưởng Feinstein không cho mượn cảnh sát.

phủ Thiệu cũng không xấu. "Ông Thiệu được bầu bởi 80 phần trăm phiếu," Bình nói như vậy. "Ông là một vị lãnh đạo chánh đảng."

Toại trả nũa: "Ông Thiệu là người ủng hộ duy nhất vào năm 1971," và sửa số thống kê của Bình, "anh quên ông Thiệu nói rằng ông được bầu bởi tỉ lệ 98,9 phần trăm lá phiếu."

Giữa sự tranh luận nóng bỏng và ngày đầu thu ẩm khác thường, không khí trong phòng tăng lên rất đáng kể. Toại lau mồ hôi trên mặt và cổ không ngừng.

Sự tranh luận càng nóng bức hơn khi Douglas Pike, giám đốc Văn Khố Đông Nam Á tại Berkeley, quả quyết rằng tiến của Nga ít nhiều có ảnh hưởng đến những cuộc vận động chống chiến tranh tại Mỹ. Khi Hugh Sheehan, chủ tịch của Xã Hội Dân Chủ trong vùng vịnh, muốn ông chứng minh sự buộc tội đó, Pike nói ông không có chứng cứ rõ ràng, nhưng ông tin điều đó là sự thật.

Đảng Xã Hội Dân Chủ là hậu thuẫn của Đảng Xã Hội Mỹ mà đã tồn tại trước thế chiến thứ II. Chủ trương chính của đảng này rất bảo thủ về chính sách đối ngoại, nhưng rất cấp tiến về đối nội.

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Đại Sứ Việt Nam Nói Về Bài Học Chiến Tranh

Quyên Quốc Tiet

Ông Bùi Diễm, đại sứ Việt Nam tại Mỹ trước 1975, nói chuyện về cách nhìn của người Việt về cuộc chiến Việt Nam tại World Affairs Council ở San Francisco vào cuối tháng 9 vừa qua.

Trong buổi nói chuyện, ông Diễm, 64 tuổi, lập lại một vài đề tài trong cuốn sách mới của ông, "The Jaws of History," (nguyên bản tiếng Anh, tạm dịch là "Những Hàm Lịch Sử"), trong đó ông phân tích về cuộc chiến. "Một giải thích về thất bại của cuộc chiến tranh Việt Nam là do sự thiếu hiểu biết lẫn nhau giữa người Việt và người Mỹ," ông Diễm nói như vậy. Ông hiện đang sống ở Maryland.

Ông Diễm nói rằng ngoài những thiếu hiểu biết lẫn nhau, Việt Nam quá y lại và có một khái niệm sai lầm về thực lực của Hoa Kỳ.

Ông Diễm nói rằng Việt Nam bị thiệt hại gần 300.000 người lính và vài triệu dân sự. Mỹ cũng mất khoảng 54.000 người.

Mỹ đã mất đi sự ngây thơ sau cuộc chiến," ông nói, "và đương nhiên, người Việt đã mất đi những gì không phải chỉ là sự ngây thơ."



Tết Trung Thu Của Trẻ Em Tenderloin

Quyên Quoc Tiet

Khi đêm xuống, những đứa trẻ ở Tenderloin có cơ hội chơi trong công viên Boedekker vào ngày 7 tháng 10. Hôm đó trẻ em khỏi phải lo sợ vì công viên vẫn mở cửa để tổ chức Tết Trung Thu.

Được tổ chức bởi Liên Hội Bắc Market và Trung Tâm Phát Triển Thanh Thiếu Niên Việt, chương trình hôm đó gồm có kể chuyện, chơi trò chơi, văn nghệ, rước đèn và phát bánh trung thu. Tết Trung Thu được tổ chức vào rằm tháng tám âm lịch, đêm trăng sáng nhất của năm.

"Buổi tổ chức này để cho trẻ em Việt Nam nhớ lại phong tục tập quán của mình và cho những trẻ em khác biết thêm về văn hóa Việt Nam," cô Đỗ Thơ của Trung Tâm Phát Triển Thanh Thiếu Niên Việt nói như vậy.

Cô Phan Hồng Khanh tập trung những đứa trẻ và kể chuyện Tết Trung Thu.



Photo: Lance Woodruff

Cô Đỗ Thơ của Trung Tâm Phát Triển Thanh Thiếu Niên Việt phát lồng đèn hôm Trung Thu.

Tho Do from Vietnamese Youth Development Center handed out lanterns.

Có rất nhiều chuyện về Cuội, một nhân vật của đêm Trung Thu. Đôi lúc Cuội được miêu tả thành một đứa trẻ nghịch ngợm và hay nói dối, gạt người bán bong bóng và những quả bong bóng đó đã

đưa thẳng Cuội lên cung trăng và Cuội đã phải sống ở đó rất cô đơn đến ngày hôm nay.

Cô Khanh đã kể một câu chuyện khác về Cuội. Năm xưa, cô nói, có một tiểu phụ

và thợ săn tên là Chú Cuội. Một hôm Cuội tìm thấy hai con cọp con và Cuội giết chúng. Lúc đó Cuội nghe tiếng cọp gầm nên leo lên cây đề núp. Cọp mẹ về thấy cọp con chết rất buồn và đi tới một cây đa, cọp mẹ nhai lá đa rồi đắp lên mình hai con cọp con. Một lúc sau, cọp con sống lại và đi theo con cọp mẹ. Chú Cuội nghĩ: "Đây là cây thần dược."

Cuội mang cây về nhà trồng và dùng lá để trị bệnh cho người trong làng. Mỗi ngày Chú Cuội bỏ rất nhiều thời giờ để chăm sóc cây nên vợ Cuội ghen. Một hôm Cuội không có ở nhà, vợ Cuội chặt gãy cây. Nhưng cây không ngã mà bay lên. Lúc đó Cuội vừa về tới, thấy vậy, Cuội nắm lấy cây để kéo xuống. Nhưng cây đưa Cuội lên trời và bay lên cung trăng. Từ đó, chúng ta có thể thấy hình thù của cây đó trên mặt trăng và Cuội ngồi dưới gốc cây. Trăng rằm sáng nhất mỗi năm vào đêm Trung Thu, chúng ta thấy Cuội ngồi đó nhìn về trái đất.

Cù Tri Việt Nam Tạo Sức Mạnh Chính Trị

Leamon J. Abrams

Tương đối mới trong khung cảnh chính trị San Francisco, những người ty nạn Việt Nam không những đăng ký bầu cử mà còn thành lập các đoàn thể chính trị để đề xướng các đường lối, quyền tiến và ủng hộ những ứng cử viên mà ủng hộ người ty nạn. Ba đoàn thể chính trị Việt Nam đã góp phần ảnh hưởng đối với cuộc bầu cử tháng 11 sắp tới này.

Trong buổi quyền tiến ngày 2 tháng 10 của Hội Hoat Động Việt Mỹ (VAAC), thành lập năm 1986, những thành viên đã ủng hộ Art Agnos, một ứng cử viên thị trường, một tám ngàn phiếu \$10.000.

Một nhóm khác, Hội Việt Nam Dân Chủ đã chính thức thừa nhận ông Agnos, và đã tài trợ buổi đón tiếp quyền tiến cho ông vào ngày 9 tháng 10.

Nhóm thứ ba, Hội Dân Chủ Việt Mỹ (VADC) đã tổ chức nhiều buổi thảo luận về những ứng cử viên. Nhóm này không chính thức thừa nhận ứng cử viên nhưng họ giáo dục, tiếp xúc và đăng ký cho cử tri.

VADC được thành lập vào năm 1982 và là đoàn thể lâu đời nhất của ba đoàn thể này. "Từ đầu chúng tôi đã nhận thấy rằng sự hiểu biết là điều rất quan trọng đối với chúng ta trong việc bầu cử," chủ tịch của VADC ông Vũ Đức Vương nói như vậy. Ông Vương cũng là giám đốc hành chánh của Trung Tâm Tái Định Cư Người Ty Nạn Đông Nam Á trụ sở tại Tenderloin. "Chúng tôi được sự ủng hộ của nhiều chánh khách địa phương đã lâu chẳng hạn như ông Phil Burton. Khi thành viên gia tăng, thành lập đoàn thể riêng của chúng tôi

là điều rất thích đáng vì đề lên tiếng những quan điểm của người Việt."

Cộng nghiệp đánh cá, kinh tế vững vịnh (đặc biệt là công nghiệp thủy vận và hải cảng), bầu cử khu vực (quản trị khu vực, chợ không phải của thành phố), và những đường lối ảnh hưởng tới trẻ em và người già là những vấn đề được đề ra trong những buổi thảo luận, ông Vương nói như vậy.

VAAC, có khoảng 70 thành viên, cũng không chính thức thừa nhận ứng cử viên. "Nhưng đầu sao đi nữa chúng tôi cũng ủng hộ những ứng cử viên biểu hiện sự quan tâm đối với cộng đồng Việt Nam," một thành viên của VAAC ông Phạm Chiêu nói như vậy. "Một số ứng cử viên khác mới bắt đầu đến với chúng ta, nhưng rất rõ ràng ông Agnos đã có một kỷ lục làm việc cho chúng ta đã trên 10 năm nay."

Theo ông Chiêu, Agnos đã lập ra một ủy hội lập pháp cho người ty nạn trong quốc hội tiểu bang và thực đây cho một thành viên người ty nạn. Thêm vào đó, theo ông Chiêu: "Agnos đã từng chống nhiều là phiếu, như SB 255 mà giới hạn ngư phủ Việt Nam."

Phát triển kinh tế, giá nhà cửa không quá cao và chế độ giáo dục bằng hai thứ tiếng là những vấn đề quan trọng đối với người Việt, Theo ông Chiêu.

Hội Việt Nam Dân Chủ, với khoảng 35 thành viên, được thành lập một năm trước đây để đề xướng sự gia tăng của người Việt Nam trong Đảng Dân Chủ, hướng dẫn cử tri và ủng hộ ứng cử viên người Việt. Hội này làm

việc chặt chẽ với các Hội Dân Chủ địa phương khác, theo ông phó chủ tịch Nguyễn Đức, "để tăng thêm sự liên kết cần thiết để có hiệu lực hơn trong các quá trình."

Tháng vừa qua, chủ tịch Hội Việt Nam Dân Chủ, ông Michael Huỳnh, đại biểu cho Hội Dân Chủ tham dự một phiên họp toàn quốc của các đảng viên Dân Chủ gốc Á châu tại LA để tìm hiểu về các ứng cử viên tổng thống. "Chúng ta cần hiểu rõ tình thế để tham gia và gây ảnh hưởng các quyết định chính trị," ông Đức nói như vậy.

Di sản thời nô lệ thực dân của Việt Nam có thể cản trở việc xây dựng tổ chức chính trị cho người Việt tại Mỹ. "Vì sự khống chế của nước ngoài trước thế chiến thứ II, chúng tôi thường có những hoạt động chính trị bí mật," ông Vương giải thích như vậy. "Chúng tôi phải thích ứng với sự hoạt động chính trị công khai--một tình hình khác biệt. Chúng tôi phải mang theo hành trang văn hóa này dung hòa vào xã hội Mỹ."

Đối với những người mới đến, những cần thiết cần bạn--việc làm và nhà cửa--vấn đề đi trước sự tham gia chính trị, ông Chiêu nói như vậy.

Theo ước tính, khoảng mười phần trăm người Việt

Nam trong thành phố đã có quốc tịch, nên có quyền bầu cử.

Ông Đức nói rằng có một số người Việt có thể bầu Louise Renne lên làm thị trưởng, nhưng đa số cũng bầu cho Agnos.

"Art đã làm rất nhiều việc, tư tham quan trại ty nạn đến đề xướng việc làm cho lợi ích của ngư phủ Việt Nam," ông nói như vậy. "Không có một ứng cử viên nào có một quá trình mười năm như Agnos."

Ông Đức và ông Vương cũng dự đoán rằng Agnos sẽ được nhiều phiếu nhất của người Việt Nam.

Trong số ước lượng 800.000 người Đông Nam Á ở Mỹ, có khoảng phân nửa đang sống ở Cali. Trong số đó đa số ở miền trung và nam Cali, khoảng 120.000 sống ở vùng vịnh. Càng ngày càng nhiều người có quốc tịch và sẽ ảnh hưởng không những chính trị của San Francisco, mà luôn cả tiểu bang và liên bang.

"Một ứng cử viên thành công cần hai điều cần bản, tiền và là phiếu. Chúng tôi định sẽ cung cấp cả hai," ông Chiêu nói như vậy.

ĐỌC THÊM TIN TỨC VIỆT NAM Ở TRANG 35

Tenderloin Times Lên Mười

Với kỳ này, tờ Tenderloin đã lên mười. Bắt đầu bằng những tờ giấy in bằng máy in tay được phát ra từ Hospitality House vào thập kỷ 70, nay tờ báo được phát hành bằng bốn thứ tiếng vào mỗi tháng. Để kỷ niệm mười năm, tờ báo sẽ có một buổi tiệc quyền tiến vào

ngày thứ năm, 19 tháng 11, từ 6 đến 9 giờ tại 901 đường Market. Cộng đồng Việt Nam được mời đến tham dự. Vé có thể đặt trước, hãy gửi \$25 đến The Tenderloin Times, 25 Taylor Street, S.F., CA 94102